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Celebrity Buzz

Richie about to give birth
pg 43

Ice Edge dropping out of Coyotes bid

REPORT The Phoenix Coyotes appear to have one less potential buyer.

Ice Edge Holdings, a group made up of Canadian and American businessmen, no longer intends to participate in tomorrow's auction for the bankrupt NHL team, according to a court filing yesterday from NHL commissioner Gary Bettman.

If Ice Edge does not submit a bid, the field of buyers would narrow to Canadian billionaire Jim Balsillie and the NHL.

Balsillie has the highest bid, as much as $242.5 million, and is contingent on moving the team to Hamilton. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News on the Move

What's this bar code for?
Find out on pg 3

Entertainment pg 40

Beatles to be born again

Canada pg 8

Ford, CAW kick off talks

Toronto Maple Leafs practice facility **The old and the new**

DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto Maple Leafs goaltending legend Johnny Bower watches the current Leafs skate at the MasterCard Centre for Hockey Excellence, the club's new practice facility, in Toronto yesterday. The MasterCard Centre is the first community arena built in Toronto in 25 years. It has four ice pads — three NHL-size pads and one Olympic-size pad. More coverage, page 17.

Opposition uproar

Provincial NDP, Conservatives furious over eHealth blockage

The opposition parties accused the Ontario government of a deliberate coverup yesterday after the Liberals used their majority to block Conservative and NDP attempts to force top brass from eHealth Ontario to appear before a legislative committee.

The Liberals on the Committee on Government Agencies out-voted the opposition parties without offering an explanation, but they obviously don't want to deliver the accountability they've been promising, charged NDP Leader Andrea Horwath.

"That's one committee where the executives can actually be brought forward and questioned by members of the legislature." NDP Leader Andrea Horwath

"That's one committee where the executives can actually be brought forward and questioned by members of the legislature," Horwath told reporters.

The opposition parties have been complaining about eHealth since June, after it was learned the agency handed out $16 million in untendered contracts to consultants, and that some consultants who were paid $2,700 a day billed extra for snacks and beverages. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tories look to extend EI benefits come fall

POLITICS The Harper government appears poised to extend the duration of employment insurance benefits, a potentially election-averting move aimed at shaming the Liberals and wooing the NDP.

But while the NDP has made extension of EI one of its key conditions for possibly propping up the minority Tories, they are skeptical the government will produce anything they can support.

Diane Finley

Human Resources Minister Diane Finley confirmed Monday that measures will be introduced soon after Parliament resumes Sept. 14 to help long-tenured workers whose jobless benefits are running out.

"This is our priority, no question," she said.

Finley indicated the measures won't necessarily involve legislation, which would require a lengthy approval process that would be interrupted if Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff follows through on his threat to topple the Tories. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 6

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SCANLIFE

Local

Cops seek attempted abduction suspect

Police are on the hunt for a suspect after an attempted abduction of a 10-year-old-boy in the Lawson and Port Union roads area Thursday evening. The boy was playing with his brother in Adam's Park around 6:30 p.m. when a man grabbed the victim's arm and tried to drag him from the playground. He was scared off by the boy's cries for help. Police say the parents called in to report the incident on Friday. Police also said there have been no reports of similar incidents in the area.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

METRO INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR
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Tomorrow's Metro

Urban Foodie

Starting this Thursday, Metro is launching Urban Foodie, a column reviewing T.O.'s top dining spots, just in time for the weekend.

metronews.ca

WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Blogs It's Called Football welcomes ESPN's Ives Galarcep to discuss the MLS playoff picture and Julian De Guzman joining Toronto FC.

Video Why the priciest gift from Silvio Berlusconi at the recent G8 summit went to Stephen Harper at **metronews.ca/canada**

Lotteries

Ontario Pick 3: 1 5 9; **Ontario Pick 4** : 3 7 4 5
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These results are not official.

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'We feel betrayed by the law'

Family of slain 14-year-old lament convicted teen killer's sentence

Eleven months ago, two 14-year-olds had a confrontation in a Brampton ravine.

One had a knife and a grudge.

He stabbed Rajiv (Ravi) Dharamdial five times in the chest and abdomen, two fatal wounds penetrating his heart. Then he ran away.

The teenaged killer rinsed the knife with bleach and dropped it down a sewer. He threw away or burned the clothes he had been wearing at the murder scene. Then, after police released a description of the killer, he cut his hair and stayed in hiding until surrendering to police with his lawyer eight days after the murder.

"He's going to get to go home but the only thing coming home to me is Ravi's backpack and shoes..."
Sunita Dharamdial, victim's mother

For all that, the killer, now 15, will serve only eight months, the remaining part of the two-year custody portion of the seven-year sentence imposed yesterday by Justice Bruce Durno for a guilty plea to second-degree murder. The sentence is the maximum for second-degree murder under Canada's youth laws.

Outside the Brampton courthouse, the victim's mother, Sunita Dharamdial, bitterly lamented the fact that the teen, who was originally charged with first-degree murder before his plea bargain, will be out of custody in eight months. The killer has been in custody since Oct. 22, 2008.

"He's going to get to go home but the only thing coming home to me is Ravi's backpack and shoes and his belongings," Sunita said. "Like a fallen soldier coming home."

"We feel betrayed by the law," Ravi's uncle Ram added. "Two years isn't enough. Where is the justice for taking a life?"

But as much as the sentence was difficult to accept for the Dharamdials, they were equally upset by the fact the convicted teen never apologized to the family for killing their only son on Oct. 14, 2008, as he walked home from school.

"He never said sorry … he doesn't have a heart … nothing … no remorse …" Sunita said. "Our Ravi will never return … Our son will never visit … Our son will never age. We must visit him at a gravesite."

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Yard waste in the trash

COLLECTION Meet Toronto's hottest political issue: Yard waste. One hundred thousand homes haven't had leaves, brush and clippings picked up since the municipal strike started June 22. And councillors say their offices are being deluged with angry calls.

The delay is pushing some residents to ignore the city's goal of diverting waste from the dump.

"How patient can people be?"
Pauline Grozdanis

Pauline Grozdanis, who lives on Savarin Street in the Brimley Road-Eglinton Avenue East area, said she gave up and placed her yard waste in the trash after failing to get answers as to when it would be collected. "How patient can people be?" she said. "City hall, of course, doesn't care … Nobody seems to care."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Back to school **A safe return**

PAWEL DWULIT/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tess Halliday, 7, holds a stop sign from crossing guard John as she heads to school to start Grade 2 at Frankland Jr. Public School.

Paramedic probe far from completion

Two and a half months after Jim Hearst died on the floor of his downtown apartment building, the provincial ministry investigating why paramedics took more than 30 minutes to arrive has not interviewed key witnesses or released any findings.

June 25, 2009

- Hearst, 59, collapsed on the ground floor of his Alexander Street apartment building, near Church Street, around 11 p.m. Bystanders tried to resuscitate Hearst without success.

An Ontario Ministry of Health report summarizing the results of the investigation, requested by the City of Toronto July 16, was expected to go to the city late last month.

But a ministry spokesperson, blaming the unavailability of "key police and ambulance contacts" due to "vacations and shift work," says the completion date has been pushed back to the end of September.

Meanwhile, other key witnesses haven't even been contacted.

"The fact that it's taking so long seems very suspicious to me," said Alejandro Martinez, Hearst's partner of eight years. "They haven't contacted me at all."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

TRIBUTE Two GTA firefighters, Mississauga Fire Chief Garry Morden and Toronto District Chief Robert I. Leek will be among 10 honoured Sunday at a Parliament Hill ceremony that pays tribute to firefighters who were killed in the line of duty or died of work-related illnesses.

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Student swarmed at Agincourt Collegiate Institute
A 17-year-old student was attacked with sticks, bottles and possibly a machete by up to 15 students at Agincourt Collegiate Institute yesterday, police said. The victim was treated in hospital. One youth was arrested and three more suspects are being sought. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Smitherman mulls future

Deputy premier hints he may consider run for Toronto mayor chair

Ontario deputy premier George Smitherman has given his strongest signal yet that he's considering making a mayoral bid in Toronto, a move that would cost the provincial government one of its key cabinet ministers.

Smitherman has previously denied rumours he would run for mayor. But the openly gay politician now says he was mulling over his future during a recent canoe trip with his husband.

"There is a bit of a consensus forming in the city that the status quo is not getting the job done. I just thought it was important to publicly acknowledge that is something I'm thinking about."
Deputy premier George Smitherman

He decided he should "take a look and see whether other options that are available may be better suited for me and may contribute something for my city."

"There is a bit of a consensus forming in the city that the status quo is not getting the job done," Smitherman said yesterday.

"I just thought it was important to publicly acknowledge that is something I'm thinking about."

The energy minister, who said he would have to resign his cabinet post to run, also said he's talked with former Progressive Conservative leader and possible contender John Tory about making sure only one of the two run because, he says, "it's counterproductive to have a race that doesn't have clear choices."

"He and I, we have good lines of communication, notwithstanding whatever little partisan brush-ups we may have had and we're going to remain in close contact," Smitherman said.

Tory said yesterday he remained in contact with Smitherman but noted there was no actual deal in place — and no candidates.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lawyers will continue legal aid boycott

The Criminal Lawyers' Association says it will continue its legal aid boycott in Ontario because the province is still short-changing the program despite a $150-million increase in funding over the next four years.

Association president Frank Addario says the new funding is an incomplete solution after two decades of underfunding.

The proposed plan, he says, fails to present a vision to restore access to justice because there is no commitment to make up for cuts and freezes under previous governments. Addario is calling on Attorney General Chris Bentley to present a full strategy to turn the agency around.

The government's move seeks to end a legal aid boycott that began with defence lawyers in Toronto and spread to Kingston, Thunder Bay and London.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Money

- Lawyers launched the boycott because they say they aren't getting enough money to try large, complicated trials.

Pride organizers seek world stage

International revellers have long flocked to Toronto's annual Pride Week, but in 2014 the whole world might be invited.

Yesterday, Pride Toronto announced its bid to host World Pride in 2014.

Toronto's Pride Week is already one of the biggest such events worldwide, but in 2014 organizers would like to "kick it up a few notches," said Mark Singh, chair of the bid committee and current co-chair of Pride Toronto.

"Basically, we're just making our event, which is already such a globally popular event, into something a lot bigger and on the world's stage."

Toronto's pitch will be made at October's Inter-Pride annual general meeting in St. Petersburg, Fla. Singh said he believes Stockholm is the only competition.

$100M

The economic payoff could be big. Toronto's three-day lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender festival in June attracted 1.3 million people, and organizers say it generated $100 million in business. World Pride would include a human rights conference and opening ceremonies at a large venue, such as the Rogers Centre, possibly with an Olympics-style flag parade.

The event would fall during the regular Pride week in 2014, but would be substantially bigger and more expensive, costing an estimated $10 million rather than the $4 million spent this year.

Pride Toronto would need some financial support. The provincial government provided $350,000 for this year's festivities, and Premier Dalton McGuinty has already provided a letter of support for the bid. Singh said the federal government pitched in $400,000 this year and he hopes for more next year.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Flu prevention **The ABC's of handwashing**

CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty demonstrates how to wash your hands yesterday to schoolchildren at Toronto's Rolph Road Public School. McGuinty was promoting health practices as part of ongoing efforts to limit the effects of the influenza A (H1N1) virus, also known as swine flu.

News in brief

COUNCIL Attempts to get the province to strip Toronto's EMS, daycare and garbage workers of the right to strike have been shelved by the city's executive committee. Following this summer's strike, some councillors tried yesterday to convince the committee that Queen's Park should declare those services "essential," a designation that would send contract disputes to binding arbitration. Feeling any changes to the EMS workers' status should be provincewide, the executive committee voted 10-2 to have Mayor David Miller consult with regional chairs, other mayors and the province.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Invest Toronto eyes interim chief

SEARCH Invest Toronto will appoint an interim leader while a formal search gets underway to find a replacement for Michael Bryant.

The former attorney general, who was handpicked in May to head up the new city agency focused on luring business here, resigned last week after he was criminally charged in the death of cyclist Darcy Allan Sheppard.

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N.S. business agency investing in LED street-lighting company

Nova Scotia's business development agency is sinking some money into a company known for its energy-efficient street lights. Nova Scotia Business Inc. is making a $6-million equity investment in LED Roadway Lighting. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

May seeks federal seat in B.C.

Federal Green Party Leader Elizabeth May, left, is jumping across Canada in her attempt to win the Green's first elected seat in Parliament. May has announced she will seek the nomination in Saanich-Gulf Islands, the B.C. riding currently held by Conservative Gary Lunn, minister of state for sport. The West Coast constituency covers part of southern Vancouver Island and most of the tiny islands dotting the southern Georgia Strait west of Vancouver. THE CANADIAN PRESS

'08 election call under fire

Judge to decide whether early campaign decision was illegal

It's now up to a judge to decide whether Prime Minister Stephen Harper's snap election call a year ago was not just politically self-serving but also illegal.

Lawyers squared off yesterday in the Federal Court of Canada in a case that could set a precedent across Canada, and even around the world.

Arguments began exactly one year after Harper forced an early campaign last September — the third in four years.

He did so despite passing changes to the Canada Elections Act in 2007 that set the next vote for Oct. 19, 2009, unless the government fell on a confidence matter first. Federal votes were to be held every four years after that.

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Democracy Watch co-ordinator Duff Conacher outside Federal Court in Ottawa yesterday. Democracy Watch says the prime minister broke his own fixed-date election law when he asked the government to dissolve Parliament last September.

The law does not clearly prohibit the prime minister from pre-empting a no-confidence vote and asking the Governor General to dissolve Parliament, which she agreed to do.

Still, watchdog group Democracy Watch says Harper's opportunistic move broke the spirit if not the letter of the legislation — what it calls the "convention" established by the law.

Co-ordinator Duff Conacher said that Harper either broke the law or his 2006 campaign promise to ban snap elections at a prime minister's partisan whim. He also claims Harper's action breached his Charter right to a fair election, a right affirmed by the Supreme Court.

Justice Michael Shore reserved judgment and likely won't release his decision for weeks or months.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Bloc prepares attack ads against Ignatieff, Harper

POLITICS Convinced that a fall election is on the horizon, Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe unveiled his plan yesterday for a double-barrelled blast against Michael Ignatieff and Stephen Harper.

The sovereigntist party is preparing, for the first time in memory, a two-pronged offensive that will include ads tearing a strip off two adversaries.

That Duceppe has targeted the two big national parties at the same time is the clearest indication yet of how Quebec could become a three-way battle-field in the next election.

Speaking to reporters after a caucus meeting in Quebec City, Duceppe offered a preview of what will be a key campaign theme: That Ignatieff and Harper are identical.

He said both men have thrown their support behind the oilsands, the Iraq war and Ontario's ailing auto sector — but not Quebec's sagging forestry industry.

Duceppe also showed off a print version of his campaign ads, which read: "Two parties, one opinion."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe

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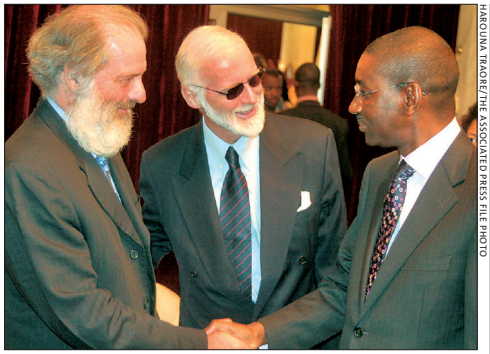
Tribunal rejects transgendered lawyer's complaint

A federal human rights tribunal has rejected a complaint by a transgendered lawyer that she was discriminated against when the Canadian Forces refused to enlist her. Micheline Montreuil alleges the Forces did not accept her 1999 application because of her sexuality. THE CANADIAN PRESS



HAROUNA TRAORE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

Robert Fowler, centre, and his aide Louis Guay, left, talk with Malian Foreign Affairs Minister Moctar Ouane at a reception in Bamako, Mali , the day after their release April 23.

Ex-envoy discusses ordeal

INTERVIEW A former Canadian diplomat who endured four rough months in captivity after a gut-wrenching roadside kidnapping in Niger initially put his odds of surviving the ordeal at about five per cent.

In an interview with CBC broadcast on The National yesterday, Robert Fowler described the disconcerting moment he learned his captors were al-Qaida.

"The bottom of my world fell out," Fowler said.

The now-retired diplomat said he believed someone in the government of Niger or possibly with the United Nations had "shopped" him to the terrorist group.

"It could be the government of Niger; could be an al-Qaida sympathizer in the UN office in Niger, in the UN office in West Africa, in the secretariat building in New York," Fowler said.

Only the government and UN knew his itinerary, the diplomat said.

The UN special envoy to Niger and his aide Louis Guay were taken at gunpoint last Dec. 14 while driving on a main road about 40 kilometres northwest of the capital, Niamey.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ford, CAW start contract talks

Company seeks concessions similar to those given to GM, Chrysler

Ford Canada and the Canadian Auto Workers union began labour talks yesterday afternoon, with the future of an assembly plant in southern Ontario one of the major issues on the bargaining table.

Ford asked the CAW to renegotiate its current labour contract, which doesn't expire until 2011, after the union gave substantial concessions to both General Motors and Chrysler earlier this year.

The concessions were part of a massive restructuring process that saw both automakers file for bankruptcy protection south of the border and receive billions of dollars from governments in both Canada and the U.S.

Ford was the only one of the Detroit Three automakers to survive the financial crisis on its own — and has seen its market share grow because of this — but Ford Canada president and CEO David Mondragon has said the company needs a new labour contract similar to that at GM and Chrysler in order to stay competitive in both Canada and the U.S.

DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Canadian Auto Workers president Ken Lewenza says the union is willing to renegotiate its labour contract with Ford, as long as the automaker maintains its current production footprint in Canada.

Pivotal plant

- Ford's St. Thomas, Ont., assembly plant employs about 1,600 workers.

The CAW has expressed a willingness to negotiate, but under the condition that Ford maintain its current production footprint in Canada.

"If Ford Motor Company is serious about reaching a new agreement with our union, it must commit to maintaining, and hopefully expanding, its Canadian production footprint," CAW president Ken Lewenza said in a statement yesterday.

But Ford Canada spokeswoman Lauren More confirmed yesterday that the company has no plans to keep manufacturing full-sized niche vehicles at its St. Thomas, Ont., plant beyond 2011.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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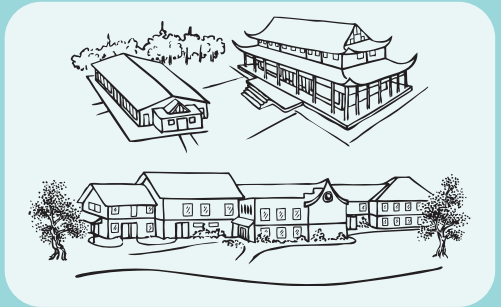

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Calgary investigates 9-1-1 phone service
City officials in Calgary are investigating after the 9-1-1 emergency line was off-line for about 30 minutes Monday morning. THE CANADIAN PRESS

More controversy for Plains event

FLQ terrorist manifesto gets OK for reading

A federal agency is giving the green light to an event on the historic Plains of Abraham despite controversy over the public reading of a terrorist manifesto.

The National Battlefields Commission, which oversees Canada's battlefields, said yesterday it will allow the event to proceed despite the controversy involving the Front de Liberation du Quebec (FLQ).

A decision to include the terrorist group's manifesto among items to be read at the event has prompted a boycott by federalist politicians, and an angry counter-reaction from Quebec sovereigntists.

Commission spokeswoman Joanne Laurin says a final agreement will be signed in the coming days approving use of the land for next weekend's event. That doesn't mean, she says, the federal agency endorses the event.

"We're not supporting the event — we're just agreeing to allow it (on the land)," Laurin said.

The 250th anniversary of the historic battle on the Plains has triggered no end of debate this year.

It began with plans to reenact the pivotal 1759 battle in which the English defeated the French, plans that sparked angry protests that led to the event's cancellation due to concerns about security.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

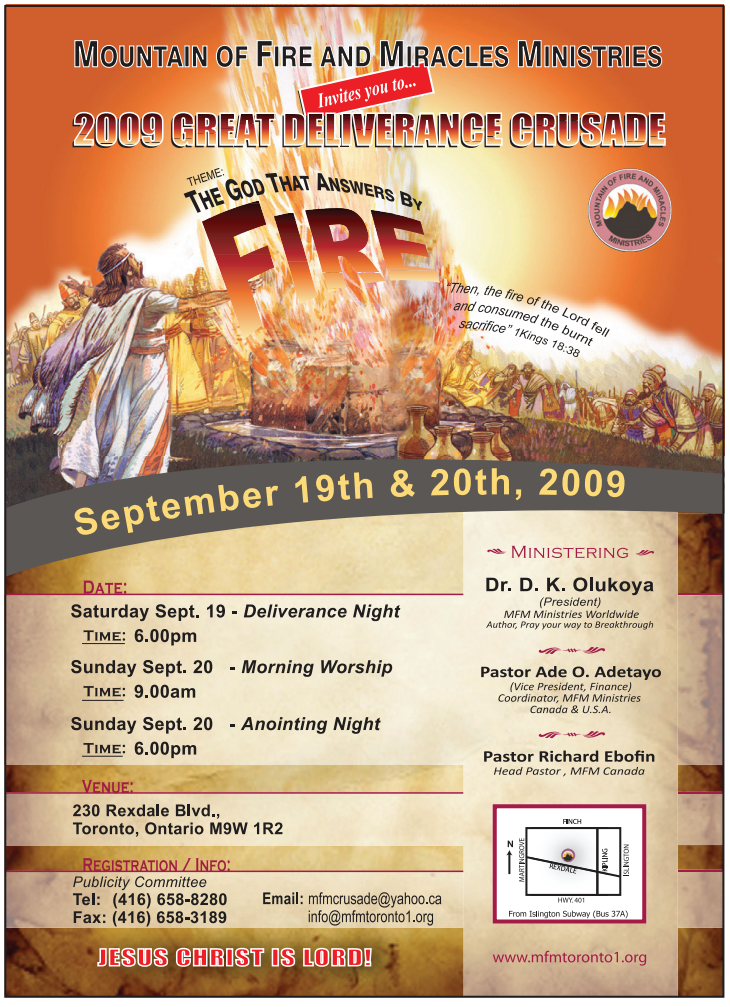
October crisis

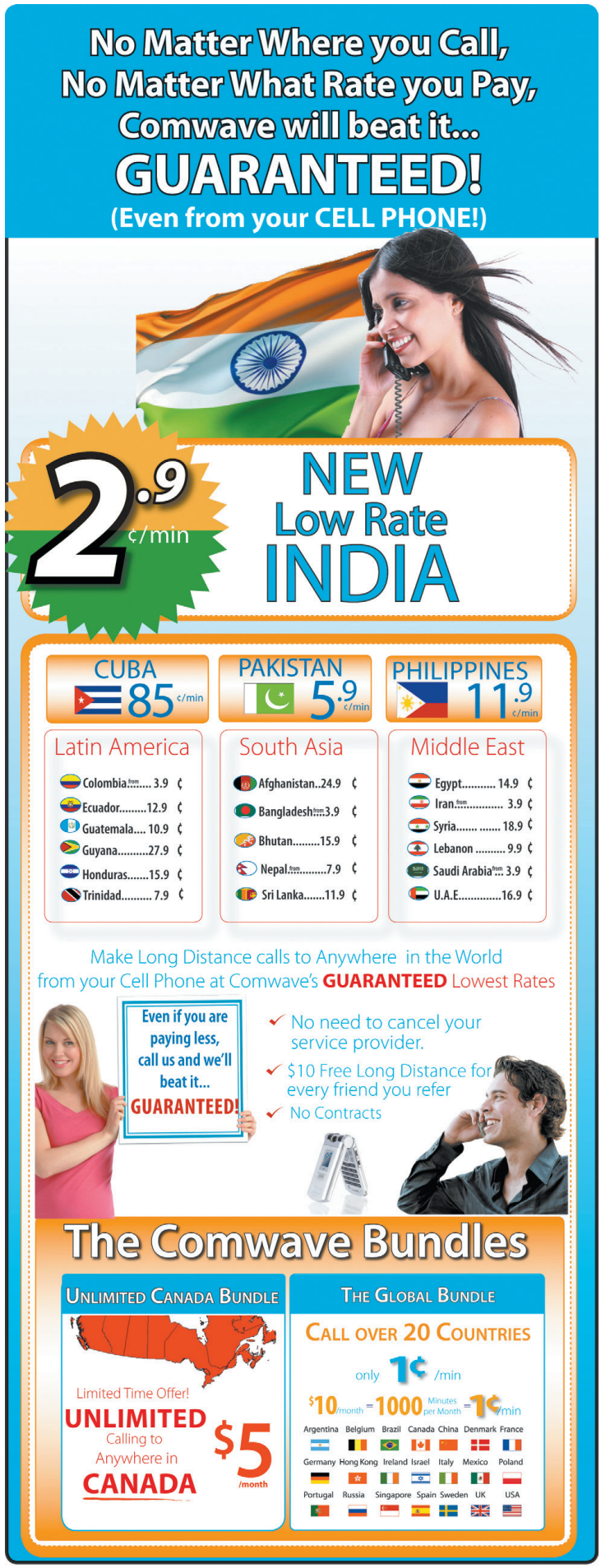
- The planned readings include the manifesto of the terrorist group that triggered the 1970 October crisis, with a string of bombings and kidnappings committed in support of Quebec independence.

News in brief

BANKING Canada has again won the top rating in the world for the soundness of its banking sector, a fundamental strength many credit for the country's ability to escape the worst of the global recession. The World Economic Forum rankings released yesterday places Canada's banks as the soundest in the world for the second straight year, followed by New Zealand and Australia. The banking sector is one of the criteria the Geneva-based organization uses to rate countries in terms of overall competitiveness.

THE CANADIAN PRESS





Ceremony planned for fallen soldiers

A repatriation ceremony is scheduled for 2 p.m. today at Canadian Forces Base Trenton for the two latest Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan. Cpl. Jean-Francois Drouin, 31, and Maj. Yannick Pepin, 36, died Sunday when a roadside bomb detonated near their armoured vehicle. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Book industry undergoing big shuffle

Canada's book industry is facing a major shake-up with news that two top publishers are looking to cut costs by laying off staff and contracting out work on subsidiary rights deals.

Random House of Canada and McClelland and Stewart both announced yesterday that they've inked deals with the Cooke Agency International, a new offshoot of the Cooke Agency, a team of Toronto-based literary representatives working for more than 100 authors.

Both deals involve contracting out work on foreign subsidiary rights, permissions, and domestic book club sales to the Cooke Agency, which will eliminate departments in both publishing companies. Random House laid off three employees while two were cut at McClelland and Stewart.

But Cooke Agency president and co-owner Dean Cooke said the deals are good news for the industry and will allow Canadian publishers and authors to join forces in selling their work abroad. He said Cooke Agency International should be able to do a more cost-efficient job of seeking foreign deals for the two publishers, while harnessing the combined clout of the three companies to make a bigger splash overseas. THE CANADIAN PRESS

No more deals planned

- Dean Cooke of the Cooke Agency said there are no additional deals with other publishers close to completion, although he's interested in expanding the company's roster.

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New duds for troops in the works

UNIFORMS Canadian soldiers could be getting new duds.

The Defence Department is seeking a firm to redesign the digitized camouflage pattern splayed over the combat fatigues worn by Canadian troops.

The department says the makeover is necessary to give soldiers deployed to war zones like Afghanistan an added edge in the field.

"As the Canadian Forces undertake new missions in new environments there continues to be an ongoing assessment of techniques for improved camouflage and concealment so as to increase the advantage of the Canadian soldier," says a request for proposals issued yesterday.

Canadian troops wear a computer-generated pixilated pattern, called the Canadian disruptive pattern, that comes in deep-green and desert colours.

The digitized pattern helps the soldiers from being spotted with night-vision goggles. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Criticism

- The Canadian military was criticized for sending soldiers to Afghanistan in dark green fatigues in 2002 as part of the U.S.-led Operation Enduring Freedom.

Building permits drop 11% in July

CONSTRUCTION Contractors took out just over $4.6 billion worth of building permits in July, 11.4 per cent fewer than in June.

Statistics Canada says an important factor in the decline was the strike by civic workers in Toronto, which shut down municipal offices for most of the month.

Municipalities issued about $2.6 billion in residential permits in July, down 4.1 per cent, and just over $2.0 billion in non-residential permits, a 19.3 per cent drop. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Polio vaccinations resume

Authorities in Pakistan's Swat Valley have resumed vaccinating children for polio, a practice the Taliban had banned as un-Islamic before they were beaten back by an army offensive, an official said yesterday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Alcohol ads should go: Brit doctors

British doctors are calling for a total ban on alcohol advertisements in an effort to control their country's drinking culture. The British Medical Association says irresponsible drinking is being underpinned by "clever alcohol advertising" which needs to be stamped out. In a report published yesterday, the association said alcohol companies were spending hundreds of millions a year to promote consumption of their wares. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Careful with Facebook, Obama says

STUDENTS In a pep talk that kept clear of politics, U.S. President Barack Obama yesterday challenged the nation's students to take pride and ownership in their education — and stick with it even if they don't like every class or must overcome tough circumstances at home.

"When I was your age," Obama said in the speech, "I was a little bit of a goof-off. My main goal was to get on the varsity basketball team and have fun."

The speech came with controversy, as several conservative organizations and concerned parents warned Obama was trying to sell his political agenda.

Obama preceded his speech with a meeting with some 40 students in a Virginia school library, carried on ESPN. At one point he advised them to "be careful what you post on Facebook. Whatever you do, it will be pulled up later in your life."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Woman released from jail – against her will

SUDAN A woman journalist convicted of public indecency for wearing trousers outdoors was freed yesterday, despite her own desire to serve a month in prison as protest against Sudan's draconian morality laws.

The judge who convicted Lubna Hussein had imposed a $200 fine as her sentence, avoiding the maximum sentence of 40 lashes in an apparent attempt to put an end to a case that had raised international criticism of Sudan.

But Hussein refused to pay the fine, which would have meant a month's imprisonment. She told The Associated Press that she was freed yesterday after the fine was paid without her knowledge by the Journalist Union, which is headed by a member of the ruling party.

"I had no choice. All my friends knew I didn't want to pay the fine," Hussein said. She suspects that the authorities don't want her to spend any time in the prison in Omdurman, on the outskirts of Khartoum, where she said at least 800 women are serving time, many of them convicted under the indecency law.

ABDELAZIZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lubna Hussein, wearing the trousers that caused her arrest, arrives at court Monday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Yale nixes cartoons

University criticized for dropping Prophet images from book

Yale University has removed cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad from an upcoming book about how they caused outrage across the Muslim world, drawing criticism from prominent alumni and a national group of university professors.

Yale cited fears of violence. Yale University Press, which the university owns, removed the 12 caricatures from the book The Cartoons That Shook the World by Brandeis University professor Jytte Klausen.

The book is scheduled to be released next week.

A Danish newspaper originally published the cartoons — including one depicting Muhammad wearing a bomb-shaped turban — in 2005. Other Western publications reprinted them. The following year, the cartoons triggered massive protests from Morocco to Indonesia.

Islamic law generally opposes any depiction of the prophet, even favourable, for fear it could lead to idolatry.

"I think it's horrifying that the campus of Nathan Hale has become the first place where America surrenders to this kind of fear because of what extremists might possibly do," said Michael Steinberg, an attorney and Yale graduate.

Steinberg was among 25 alumni who signed a protest letter sent Friday to Yale Alumni Magazine that urged the university to restore the drawings to the book. Other signers included John Bolton, a former U.S. ambassador to the UN, former Bush administration speechwriter David Frum and Seth Corey, a liberal doctor. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Protest brewing over naming of Cheney centre

A decision by the University of Wyoming to name a new centre for international students for former U.S. vice-president Dick Cheney is drawing criticism from people who say Cheney's support for the Iraq war and harsh interrogation techniques should disqualify him from the distinction.

The former vice-president and wife Lynne are expected to attend tomorrow's dedication of the Cheney International Center on the Laramie campus. Protesters plan to be there, too. The centre is funded in part with $3.2 million the Cheneys donated to the university in several installments while he was vice-president.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Deadly storm cuts across South America
A violent storm that spawned a tornado has killed 14 people across Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay, authorities said yesterday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ballot recount ordered as Karzai nears victory

A UN-backed commission yesterday ordered a recount of tainted ballots from the Afghan presidential vote, saying it had "convincing evidence of fraud," even as President Hamid Karzai for the first time surpassed the threshold needed to avoid a run-off and win re-election.

Doubts are growing about the Aug. 20 election's credibility, a key step in NATO efforts to strengthen the Afghan government and bolster declining support for the almost eight-year war against a spreading Taliban insurgency.

The UN-backed Electoral Complaints Commission, an independent body with the power to investigate and nullify fraudulent votes, ordered a recount at polling stations where it had found "clear and convincing evidence of fraud." That means that Karzai could still have votes taken away from him.

Karzai

More than 720 major fraud charges have been lodged with the complaints commission.

With results in from almost 92 per cent of the country's polling sites, Karzai has 54.1 per cent of the votes, pushing him over the threshold that would allow him to declare victory outright and avoid a run-off with his main challenger, Abdullah Abdullah.

Grant Kippen, a Canadian and the chairman of the Electoral Complaints Commission, said the irregularities found include ballots not being folded — meaning they would not fit in a ballot box slot — identically marked ballots and overly large counts at polling stations.

Kippen said he saw a ballot box with 1,700 ballots in Kandahar, even though the maximum should be 600.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

BOMB SCARE A busy British air base was briefly subject to a bomb scare yesterday, but the Ministry of Defence said it turned out to be a false alarm. The military had reported earlier that it was investigating a suspected improvised explosive device at Royal Air Force Lyneham, about 145 kilometres west of London. Lyneham is one of Britain's largest and busiest Royal Air Force hubs, and is home to Hercules transport aircraft widely used in Afghanistan.

CAPTURED A man who authorities say is linked by DNA to the slayings of nine women since 1986 was captured by police after a police officer spotted his car at a motel, authorities said. Walter E. Ellis, 49, has been charged in the deaths of two of the nine victims, and more charges are expected this week, Milwaukee prosecutors said Monday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment

Common sense dulled

Be prepared, but don't carry knives, says U.K. Scouting

TheWestView

One of the hazards of being in the news business is you encounter so much preposterousness you never know whether to laugh or cry.

For example, Scouting, the official voice for the Boy Scouts in Britain, has advised scouts to stop carrying Boy Scout knives.

This is to prevent the spread of what Scouting calls "a growing knife culture in the U.K."

In response to the outcry, a Scout spokesperson left little doubt they were serious: "Scouting helps to prepare young people with valuable life skills, while keeping them safe by not carrying knives."

Wait a minute. The Boy Scout motto is "Be Prepared." How are they supposed to be prepared to cut kindling, peel potatoes, open cans or other important Boy Scout stuff if they take away their Boy Scout knives?

When I think of the endless hours I spent as a Cub tying all those stupid reef knots and playing dodgeball in church basements so I could step up to Scouts and my own official Boy Scout knife, I feel the need to both laugh and cry.

Laugh because the idea of camping without tools or, depending on the pack adult, passing out knives at the appropriate moment makes a mockery out of the self-reliance required to be a scout. Either give the little blighters the knowledge and skill required to become good scouts, or keep them at home and give out badges for ordering pizza.

Cry because in an attempt to remove life's sharp edges, we're putting our boys in a bubble, and boys are suffering for it. Indeed, there is a thin line between savagery and civilization, but there is also one between civilization and demoralization, and somehow we have to civilize boys without turning them into ciphers.

I hasten to add that girls are just as disadvantaged by the ban, as girls need to be just as prepared as boys. What's next? Confiscate all the needles from the sewing kits? No tent pegs?

And in case you were thinking Boy Scouts are anachronisms in the Age of Taking the 4-Wheel Drive to the Mall, last year there was a waiting list of 32,000 in the U.K. alone. Maybe kids are tired of Tweeting.

This knife thing is really disturbing because it comes out of England, home of the father of Scouting, Lord Baden Powell. Just in case you were wondering what old BP thought about it, here's his take, right out of the Boy Scout manual:

"Be Prepared ... a scout must prepare himself by previous thinking out and practising how to act on any accident or emergency so that he is never taken by surprise." And: "The boy is not governed by don't, but is led by do."

So … DYB! DYB DYB! (Do Your Best!)

Get the point?

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Worth mentioning

New climate change pact in peril: Ministers

Two British Cabinet ministers said yesterday that attempts to broker a new global pact on climate change by the end of the year are at risk of failing.

Hopes for an agreement being reached at a United Nations summit in December "hang in the balance," undermined by a climate of suspicion between rich and poor countries, said Foreign Secretary David Miliband, speaking at a press conference with his brother, Climate Change Secretary Ed Miliband.

But David Miliband told reporters in London that the complexity of negotiations and disputes between industrialized and developing nations over cuts to emissions threaten to ruin a deal.

5.2 Nations will meet in Copenhagen, Denmark, to attempt to strike a pact to succeed the Kyoto Protocol, which bound 37 industrial countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 5.2 per cent of 1990 levels by 2012.

"The deal the world needs in Copenhagen is now in the balance," he said. "There's a real danger the talks scheduled for December will not reach a positive outcome, and an equal danger in the run-up to Copenhagen that people don't wake up to the danger of failure until it's too late." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Word on the street: How do you feel about the prospects of a fall federal election?

Kaycy Szy
age 44, Toronto
A: I think we just had one and we're too busy and there's not enough money. We'd be better off without it.

Ghislain Jacques
age 45, Toronto
A: They work for their advantage. They should look more at the low-income people ... They should take care of our people first, then do what they have to do.

Sonia Rose
age 51, Toronto
A: I think it's bad timing ... Recession ... I don't think an election is really needed now.

Alex Schecter
age 33, Ottawa
A: Nothing is going to change. I think Canadians have been through enough elections where nothing has changed. I think we're probably getting a little tired of the process and tired of wasting money.

Anne Melanson
age 44, Dartmouth, N.S.
A: A federal election in this country is becoming a bit of an annual event. If it leads to a majority government either way and we can move forward with some serious agendas, then I'm all for it.

Rich Elvers
age 40, Calgary
A: I don't really like the idea of it because there's been so many in the last few years. And it doesn't really seem like it's making much of a difference.

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Chrysler plant in Windsor takes right-hand turn
Chrysler's assembly plant in Windsor has begun producing right-hand drive minivans for international markets. The Windsor plant is Chrysler's only plant operating with a full three shifts, and all 4,600 employees are working full time again. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

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US 0.62¢	US 12¢	US $3.08	87.83

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Telus taking over Black's retail stores

WIRELESS Telus Corp. is acquiring Black's Photo for $28 million, joining rival Bell Canada in bulking up its retail presence in advance of the arrival of new competitors for wireless customers next year.

Bell

• The Telus announcement follows a similar move by Bell Canada to buy 750 The Source electronic stores in March after Circuit City, its American parent, went bankrupt in the U.S.

Some time before the holiday shopping season, Black's stores will begin selling Telus wireless products and services at 113 locations across the country, with a particular strength in Ontario.

Chief financial officer Robert McFarlane said yesterday Telus needs to increase its distribution in the most populous province and Black's is a "perfect fit." THE CANADIAN PRESS

McLoser McCurry keeps name

VINCENT THIAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

McDonald's mascot sits this one out at a shopping mall in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. The U.S. fast food giant lost an eight-year trademark battle to prevent local restaurant McCurry from using the 'Mc' prefix in a precedent-setting judgment by Malaysia's highest court. McCurry, which serves Indian food, is an abbreviation for Malaysian Chicken Curry, its owner says.

Business in brief

MINING Volta Resources Inc., a junior Toronto miner, says it has signed a letter of intent with Randgold Resources to buy a 100 per cent stake in the Kiaka gold project in Burkina Faso in West Africa for $4 million in cash and 20 million Volta common shares.

RETAIL Forzani Group plans to consolidate its outdoor and lifestyle banners under a single name by next spring. Coast Mountain Sports and Atmosphere lines will be combined under the Atmosphere name, which is best known in Quebec. THE CANADIAN PRESS

C$ heads for parity again

Central bank mulls next move

The Canadian dollar's apparently relentless climb back to parity with the U.S. dollar is leading to speculation that the Bank of Canada may be considering doing more than talk about the dangers of a strong loonie.

The loonie has appreciated more than two cents in the past few trading days and many are projecting it could attain parity by the end of the year. It closed at 92.64 cents US yesterday, after briefly hitting 93.44.

While that may sound good to snowbirds contemplating a trip south in a few months, bank governor Mark Carney has warned such a move puts the strength of the economic recovery in jeopardy.

Most observers fully expect Carney to once again hector about the dollar's inflated value at tomorrow's policy announcement, and leave it that.

However, economists caution the central bank risks losing credibility if it keeps warning about action, without following through. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pulp takes beating

• Avrim Lazar of the Forest Products Association of Canada estimated for each penny rise in the loonie's value, the battered pulp industry loses 15 per cent in returns.

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TSX at year's highest level

STOCKS Commodity stocks helped send the TSX to its highest close of the year thanks to a weak U.S. dollar and optimism over a weekend pledge by the world's 20 biggest economies to support the global recovery with stimulus efforts. The S&P/TSX composite index closed up 87.83 points to 11,105.3 as the energy sector gained 2.45 per cent on higher oil prices. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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416-767-5036 www.junctionartsfest.com

The Toronto International Film Festival
September 10 - 19 Multiple Venues
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416-968-FILM www.tiff.net

25th Annual Vegetarian Food Fair
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Take any streetcar from Union subway station or the 510 Spadina streetcar from Spadina subway station.
416-544-9800 www.veg.ca/foodfair

Cabbagetown Festival
September 11 - 13 Parliament Street between Wellesley and Gerrard Streets
Take the 506 Carlton streetcar eastbound from College subway station or the 94 Wellesley bus eastbound from Wellesley subway station or southbound from Castle Frank subway station.
416-921-0857 www.cabbagetownfestival.blogspot.com

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Brazil gives Lara Exploration licence to explore

Lara Exploration Ltd., a junior Vancouver mineral developer, says the Brazilian Department of Mines has granted an exploration licence for its 8,569-hectare Curionopolis property in the Carajas District of northern Brazil. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Gold tops key level

More than $1,000 as U.S. dollar loses lustre

The price of gold rose above $1,000 US per ounce yesterday to its highest since March 2008 — suggesting investors are wary of the U.S. dollar's weakness and expect international interest rates to remain low for some time.

The gold contract for October delivery traded up $9.69 US, or 1.0 per cent, at $1,005 US per troy ounce on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Gold's rise often correlates to a drop in the value of the American currency.

That's what happened in the spring of 2008, when gold was last above $1,000 US and worries about the financial crisis brewing in the U.S. were hurting the country's currency.

"It is mainly the reflection of the weakness of the dollar," said Julian Jessop, economist at Capital Economics. He noted, however, that gold was also being boosted by market expectations that global central banks would keep their interest rates low for some time to come. One disadvantage to holding gold is that no interest is earned.

Jessop was not convinced gold could sustain such high prices for very long or push much higher since consumers quickly start selling gold items to take advantage of stronger prices. "This rally is sowing the seeds of its own destruction," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NICK UT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

Gold is typically bought as an alternative to the U.S. dollar by investors seeking safe-haven assets to preserve capital.

$1,009 Gold traded as high as $1,009.70 yesterday on the New York Mercantile Exchange — the highest since it hit a record of $1,033.90 on March 17 last year.

Business in brief

ROMANIA Ford Motor Co. began production of its new compact van at a factory in southern Romania yesterday — a rare piece of good news for Romania's struggling automobile industry. The Transit Connect will sell for $20,000 to $22,000 US in Romania and the United States. Ford said it had sold 600,000 so far worldwide. Ford bought a 72.4 per cent stake in state-owned Automobile Craiova in 2007.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Groups pressing for word on Opel as GM board meets

AUTOS General Motors Co.'s board began a two-day meeting in Detroit yesterday with European labour organizations pressing for a decision on the fate of its European unit Opel, where thousands of German jobs are on the line.

GM has two bids to choose from. German officials, Opel workers and unions have declared support for the offer from Canada's Magna International and Russian bank Sberbank because they believe Magna would keep more jobs in Germany.

The other bid is from RHJ International, a Brussels-based investment house, which many in Germany fear could sell the unit back to GM at a later date. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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It's Called Football
ESPN's Ives Galarcep joins It's Called Football to discuss Julian De Guzman joining Toronto FC, coming coaching changes and the MLS playoff picture. Watch at **metronews.ca/blogs**

Sports

Angel picks up the tab

At most PGA Tour stops, caddies can find a good, inexpensive meal in the "Caddywagon," a trailer that serves as a diner on wheels. But last week at the Deutsche Bank Championship caddies ate free. Masters champion Angel Cabrera, left, put the meals on his tab. "It is customary in Argentina that when you win a tournament, you invite the caddies to dinner," said Cabrera, who started out as a caddie himself. "I was just waiting for the right time." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

'A community facility'

Maple Leafs to share 'Cadillac' of a practice rink with the public

Brian Burke calls his team's new practice rink "a Cadillac."

The Toronto Maple Leafs general manager is not easily impressed, but he likes what he sees at the state-of-the-art MasterCard Centre for Hockey Excellence.

Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment unveiled the 24,150-square-metre facility yesterday, which will serve as the practice centre for both the Maple Leafs and the AHL's Marlies. The facility features four NHL-sized rinks, one of which can be expanded to Olympic size.

Burke marvelled at the structure, the first community ice rink to be built in the Toronto in more than a quarter-century.

"This is a huge day for hockey in this area," said Burke. "The immediate fix for our hockey club is that it gives us the best practice facilities in the NHL, and in the American Hockey League."

The building features spacious exercise and weight rooms, luxurious lockerrooms and a host of other amenities. Players looked around with wide eyes as they surveyed the new digs. Several of them were actually on the ice for practice while the unveiling was going on.

The opening comes exactly nine months after the Montreal Canadiens unveiled their own snazzy new practice facility, featuring two rinks and an indoor soccer pitch. Even though the Leafs' building isn't quite finished — one of the rinks was closed off to the public — they intend to open training camp there this weekend.

Burke added the facility will give minor hockey players one more place to develop — a necessity, given the aging state of Toronto's current community rinks.

"Anyone who has a kid in minor hockey here knows that the facilities in Toronto have not been updated," said Burke. "To add four ice sheets in one fell swoop, in a centrally located area, will provide phenomenal opportunity for young players.

"This isn't a Maple Leafs-Marlies facility, it's a community facility where the Maple Leafs and Marlies will practise."

The Leafs and Marlies have committed to holding practices even when community skates or minor hockey events are being held in adjacent rinks, giving fans the rare opportunity to skate mere metres away from their idols.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kessel deal unlikely

- Maple Leafs fans hoping to see Phil Kessel in blue and white are probably out of luck.

Leafs general manager Brian Burke yesterday quashed rumours the Leafs were set to put together an offer sheet for the 21-year-old forward. Kessel, a restricted free agent, remains unsigned as the Bruins prepare to start training camp this week.

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Blue Jays Twins doubled up

FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto second baseman John McDonald and Minnesota's Delmon Young collide as McDonald turns a double play last night at the Rogers Centre. Powered by McDonald's three-run home run, the Blue Jays doubled up the Twins 6-3.

Sports in brief

HOCKEY Jonathan Roy, the son of NHL hockey legend Patrick Roy, will will stand trial next month and face assault charges for the on-ice beating he delivered to an opposing goalie in Quebec's major junior league.

SOCCER Adriano Mutu has proposed making contributions to various charities or worthy causes rather than paying 17.2 million euros ($26.7 million) compensation to Chelsea after the Blues fired him for using cocaine. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Dichio expected to announce retirement today

SOCCER Toronto FC has scheduled a news conference for this morning amid speculation that all-time leading scorer Danny Dichio will announce he's retiring to take on another role with the team.

The move by Dichio, a fan favourite since the inaugural season of 2007, would create space under the Major League Soccer salary cap for the team to make Scarborough's Julian de Guzman its highest-paid player.

Sources last night confirmed negotiations continue between TFC and de Guzman, the 28-year-old Canadian international midfielder, who earlier this summer turned down a $2.75-million deal with the club.

Danny Dichio

A deal could be completed by week's end for de Guzman to join TFC, which has six games remaining and sits only two points out of a tie for the first playoff berth in its three-year history.

Dichio, a former English Premier League player, will be forever linked with TFC by virtue of scoring the first goal in club history.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Beckham interested in Montreal?

SOCCER David Beckham's interest in owning a piece of Major League Soccer could lead him to Montreal, according to a report.

The England star, who plays for the Los Angeles Galaxy, has previously confirmed he has an option to get into ownership. Now a report says Montreal could be a fit.

The New York Times, citing a source with "knowledge of Beckham's planning," says Beckham and his management team are interested in partnering with Montreal Impact owner Joey Saputo in an MLS franchise in Montreal.

The Impact, which plays in the USL First Division, had looked at an expansion MLS franchise, but balked at the $40-million US price tag. The fee was later dropped to $35 million.

The Times says Beckham's MLS contract includes a clause that enables him to operate a team as early as 2012.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gender test results expected soon

The results of Caster Semenya's gender verification tests are due to arrive at the IAAF any day, but the outcome is unlikely to see the world 800-metre champion stripped of her gold medal. Doubts about the South African's gender surfaced last month in Berlin when it emerged the tests were being conducted. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports in brief

SENTENCED William (Boots) Del Biaggio III was sentenced yesterday to more than eight years in prison for bilking banks and investors out of millions of dollars in an attempt to buy the Nashville Predators. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro

Murray most disappointed

No. 2 seed eliminated from U.S. Open, Clijsters advances on women's side

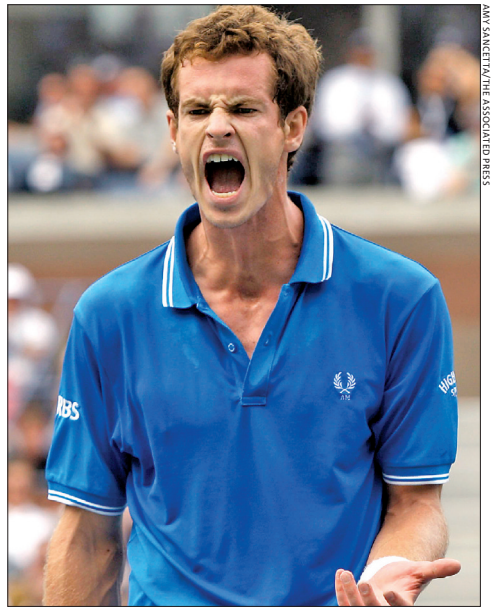
That upward-pointing arrow defining Andy Murray's career flattened out dramatically yesterday.

The British star, who had ascended to a No. 2 ranking, was ousted from the U.S. Open by No. 16 Marin Cilic, 7-5, 6-2, 6-2 — a lopsided result as surprising for its score as the player he lost to.

Cilic overcame two set points in the first set, then pounded Murray over the last two to make his first career Grand Slam quarterfinal. Murray, who lost to Roger Federer in the final at Flushing Meadows last year, will finish 2009 without making a major final.

The match ended in the late afternoon in New York and just before newspaper deadlines back in England, where the sports sections follow Murray's every move. Certainly, those headlines won't be nice this morning.

"Today, I could've been better in pretty much every part of my game, whether it was mental, forehand, backhand, return," said Murray, who conceded that, yes, this was the most disappointing loss of his career.



AMY SANCETTA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Andy Murray reacts after losing a point to Marin Cilic yesterday at the U.S. Open. Cilic defeated Murray 7-5, 6-2, 6-2.

Meanwhile, former No. 1 Kim Clijsters, who was on the sidelines for two years, advanced to the semifinals with a 6-2, 6-4 romp over No. 18 Li Na, becoming the first unseeded player to reach the Open semifinals since Elena Dementieva in 2000.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nestor out

- Daniel Nestor is out of the U.S. Open. The Toronto native and his Serbian partner Nenad Zimonjic suffered a 6-7 (4-7), 6-4, 6-0 loss to Max Mirnyi of Belarus and Andy Ram of Israel in quarter-finals doubles action.

Nestor was furious with the chair umpire for not controlling what appeared to be a rowdy bunch who stood out in the sparsely populated Grandstand stadium. They yelled and distracted in support of Mirnyi and Ram, which bothered Nestor and Zimonjic enough to complain.

He and the burly Ram then exchanged harsh words after the loss.

Metro Workology exclusive: Skilled Trades
For the month of September, Metro's Workology section will be focusing on the extremely lucrative and soon to be booming employment sector of skilled trades. So be sure to read Workology and Metronews.ca/work every day.

Workology

French fight in Quebec

Former Quebec premier Bernard Landry believes the province should impose French-only college education on the children of immigrants. Landry says it's time to apply Bill 101, launched in 1977 with the goal of protecting the French language in Quebec, to the province's CÉGEPs to ensure immigrant youth are fully integrated as francophones. THE CANADIAN PRESS

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Working with your hands

Skilled trades offer great compensation and are in demand

Skilled **Trades**

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Here's a question: Which career averages a six-figure salary while guaranteeing employers across the country will climb over each other to hire you?

If you answered skilled trades, pat yourself on the back for getting something right that most Canadians tends to get wrong.

Despite many common misconceptions, careers in the skilled trades for electricians, welders, crane operators and scores of other trades people are lucrative, in demand and provide some of the steadiest and most satisfying employment available.

While the recent recession has impacted all levels of industry throughout the country, George Gritziotis, executive director of the Construction Sector Council, says the construction industry managed more of a soft landing as a result of almost $10 billion in government stimulus money and an unprecedented construction boom from 1996-2008, which saw employment hit a record of 1.2 million workers Canada-wide.

"Parts of the country went from overheated and super busy down to just being busy, so the downturn for us wasn't as dramatic as it could have been," he said.

Careers in the skilled trades usually begin with an apprenticeship that lasts five years, followed by graduation to journeyman status for full employment prospects. The ongoing shortage of skilled-trade workers across Canada is so pronounced, Gritziotis says, that before the current recession employers were hiring students before they had even finished their full apprenticeships.

With a shift from the private sector towards government-funded building construction projects such as roads, bridges, hospitals and schools, careers in skilled trades are likely to enjoy a strong foundation.

"For 2010 we're seeing a shift from private sector construction towards more in the public sector and that is good news if you're somebody coming into the industry because many of those public sector projects are long-term projects," Gritziotis said.

Despite the positive employment prospects for skilled-trades careers however, the future looks troubling for employers because Gritziotis says fewer people are going into the skilled trades than are retiring every year.

Skills Canada polls have shown that 60 per cent of young people say their parents have not encouraged them to consider a career in trades.

"The thing that doesn't change is demographics. How many parents look at a career in construction or trades as being a career that continues? The truth is it's not just a job to save up money to go into something else. There is a real career and a career path out there," he said.

A recent Construction Sector Council study estimates roughly 20 per cent of skilled-trades workers will retire by 2017 leading to a need for 300,000 new workers to fill the needs of the industry within that same time period.

For more of the Skilled Trades exclusive series check Workology frequently or stop by:
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$8 million for St. Clair 'healthplex' in Chatham
Last week the federal government announced $7.7 million from the Community Adjustment Fund for the proposed "healthplex" at St. Clair College's Thames campus in Chatham, Ont. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology in **brief**

RETIREMENT ON HOLD According to a recent study by the Bank of Montreal Retirement Institute, many Canadian boomers are being forced to put their retirement on hold due to the recent global economic downturn in order to supplement their retirement income. Many boomers apparently have a retirement dream, but not a detailed plan on how to achieve their goals. Therefore, experts suggest boomers obtain professional advice on their finances in order to fully understand their income versus their expenses in retirement. Many people may be surprised to find out that they don't have to work for as many more years as they thought.

YOUTH FUSION A new program by the non-profit group Youth Fusion aims to prevent Montreal high school students in disadvantaged areas from dropping out of school. As part of the program, two dozen Montreal university students will spend 15 hours a week at six local high schools over the next year, implementing extra-curricular projects such as a young entrepreneurs club, an elaborate talent show, a school newspaper and a science fair aimed at motivating students to stay in school. Youth Fusion has amassed $230,000 in funding for the project, which they hope to continue expanding.

$$ INFUSION FOR LAKEHEAD The federal government announced last Friday $13 million from the Knowledge Infrastructure Program for the construction of a new multi-use academic building at Lakehead University's Orillia campus. The facility will allow the university to offer more academic programs in the arts and sciences, environmental studies, business administration, and social work.

HEATHER BUCHAN/ METRO NEWS SERVICES

Women's gain at work is men's loss

Women labour leaders say there's a "dark side" to Statistics Canada figures suggesting that for the first time in history there are more women than men in Canada's workforce.

A recently issued labour force survey found that about 7.1 million women were in paid employment during the first half of 2009, compared to 6.9 million men.

Women outnumbered men in both the "under 25 years" and the "25 years and over" demographics.

The figures are not a reflection of gains in female-dominated industries, but of layoffs and cutbacks in male-dominated industries, such as the beleaguered manufacturing and natural resources sectors, said labour leaders in the auto and nursing sector.

"Nobody should break out the champagne here."
CAW representative Laurell Ritchie on the dark side of this workplace trend

"Nobody should break out the champagne here," said Laurell Ritchie, a national representative with the Canadian Auto Workers' union. "There is a dark side to this story."

In the past year, employment among women has risen by 0.6 per cent, while men's employment has fallen by 1.7 per cent in the same period, the report indicates.

"Men are losing jobs, they're unemployed, they're taking early retirement, when that may not have been their original plan, or moving into self-employment," Ritchie said.

"With women, there has been some increase in some areas of the service sector, like health care, and women predominate in those jobs."

Ritchie said she was reviewing the report and noticed something she had never seen before — that there were more women in paid employment than men.

She called Statistics Canada and got the numbers confirmed.

But the study's figures do not include Canadians who are self-employed or unemployed who are actively seeking jobs.

Women are taking part-time and any work they can get, to put food on the table for their families, said Lesley Bell, a registered nurse and CEO of the Ontario Nurses' Association.

"Women are only paid 71 cents on the dollar in relation to men so they're cheaper costs," Bell, whose association is 98 per cent women, said. "Women are getting more work, but at a much lower rate usually."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A recently issued labour force survey found that about 7.1 million women were in paid employment during the first half of 2009, compared to 6.9 million men.

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Enrolment boom at Lakeland College
Alberta-based Lakeland College anticipates enrolment to increase by as much as 25 per cent this year due to a rise in the number of returning students. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Resignation need not mean the end of a job

WorkplaceLaw

"Once you learn to quit, it becomes a habit."
–VINCE LOMBARDI

"In order for a resignation to be effective, the real test is whether the employee's actions are consistent with someone voluntarily wishing to leave."

After a tumultuous nine-year relationship with his boss, Juan Moreno may have finally had enough of his job. But when he left the Oakville, Ont., offices of Comfact Corporation after another argument, he didn't think it would be his last day of work. Moreno hadn't been formally terminated, and he didn't think he had resigned either. When he was accused of quitting, however, Moreno wasn't about to go quietly.

Over the course of their working relationship, Moreno often butted heads with his boss, and Comfact's president, Robert McAllister. As the general manager, Moreno felt that he wasn't being treated with enough respect.

Following another one of their routine flare-ups, Moreno gave McAllister a letter announcing that he would be resigning in two weeks' time. McAllister did not accept Moreno's resignation. Instead, he suggested that they let cooler heads prevail and meet in a few days to discuss the matter again. When they later met, the meeting went well, and Moreno withdrew his resignation. He and McAllister agreed that they would continue as before, as if nothing had happened.

A few months later Moreno and McAllister sparred again the day after Moreno returned from a two-week vacation. According to McAllister, Moreno had a "stupid" idea for one of his files and when he told him so, the conversation became heated. The next morning McAllister wrote a letter to Moreno advising him that he had accepted his resignation. Moreno packed his personal belongings and left. He was then given two weeks' severance pay.

At a recent trial to determine whether Moreno had quit or was fired, McAllister attempted to persuade the judge that Moreno had declared his intention to resign during the argument. However, the judge wasn't convinced. Prior to Moreno's departure, McAllister had mentioned that he wanted to "get rid" of Moreno, and the resignation that he purported to accept was the same resignation that had been withdrawn months earlier. When McAllister attempted to accept a resignation that had already been withdrawn, Moreno was effectively fired.

In order for a resignation to be effective, the real test is whether the employee's actions are consistent with someone voluntarily wishing to leave. I currently have two such cases. In one, the employee emphatically denies having uttered the words "I quit." In the other, she asserts that the employer wrongly attributed to her a statement indicating that she had resigned. In both cases, the employees came to work the next day as if nothing unusual had happened. The conclusion to their cases will be, I suspect, based not upon the words used by my clients but on their actions and conduct at the time that those words were said — and afterwards. Nothing else ought to be dispositive.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer focusing on the law of dismissal; dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com.

Workology in brief

NEW JOBS? According to report released on Sept. 4 by Statistics Canada, Canada's economy unexpectedly created 27,100 jobs in August. Although all the jobs were part-time in the retail, wholesale, construction, finance and real estate sectors, it helped boost the Canadian dollar up eight-tenths of a cent to 91.44 cents US. Many leading economists say this data is a positive sign that economic recovery has started. However, there were still 15,000 job losses in Canada in August, while the number was much greater south of border, at 200,000 job losses. The main full-time job losses occurred in manufacturing and education.

NOT FOR STUDENTS, THOUGH According to new Statistics Canada figures, last month's unemployment rate for students aged 15 to 24 rose 5 per cent from August 2008 to 16.4 per cent, the highest August level since comparable data became available in 1977.
HEATHER BUCHAN/ METRO NEWS SERVICES

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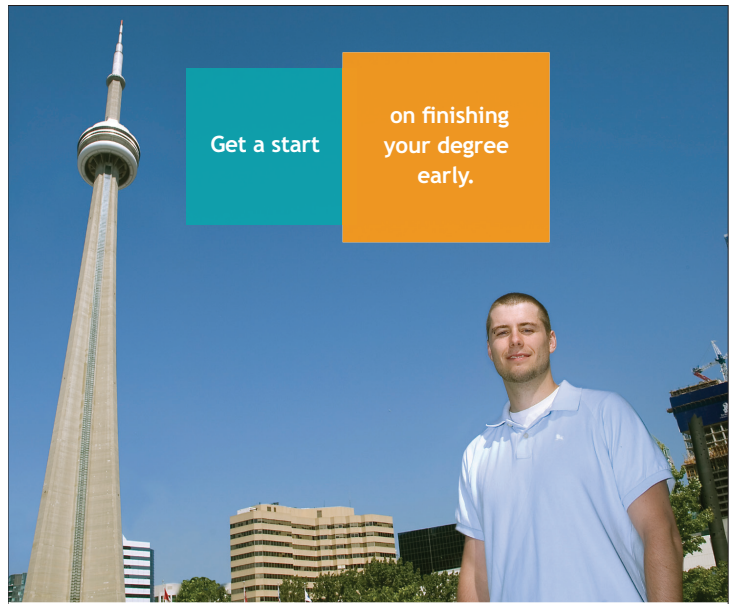

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Aveo 5-door LS model shown with PG9 and UE1††

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LOWER CASH PRICE	$12,495	$13,270**	$14,980**
AIR CONDITIONING	✔	X	X
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FOG LIGHTS	✔	X	X
REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY	✔	X	X
CRUISE CONTROL	✔	X	X
ON STAR¥	✔	X	X
POWERTRAIN WARRANTY	5-year/160,000 km	5-year/100,000 km	5-year/100,000 km

WITH More than $3,000◆ in additional features than Toyota or Honda

◆Value of additional standard features based on dealer pricing. Vehicle comparison is based on 2009 Aveo LT (1TX48 1SB + CF5), 2009 Yaris LE 5-Door (KT923M), and 2009 Fit DX (GE8729E). **Vehicle specification and purchase price according to the information available on the manufacturer's website at time of printing.

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Cobalt SS Coupe model shown with 29U.††

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	2009 COBALT LT	2010 TOYOTA COROLLA CE BASE SEDAN MODEL	2009 HONDA CIVIC DX BASE SEDAN MODEL
LOWER CASH PRICE	$13,995	$15,260**	$14,490**
AIR CONDITIONING	✔	X	X
AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION	✔	X	X
16" ALUMINUM WHEELS	✔	X	X
REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY	✔	X	X
POWER DOOR LOCKS	✔	X	X
HP / TORQUE	155 / 150	132 / 128	140 / 128
POWERTRAIN WARRANTY	5-year/160,000 km	5-year/100,000 km	5-year/100,000 km

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CITY: 8.7L/100KM – 33 MPG◊

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Rental cars going smoke-free
Beginning Oct. 1, all Avis Rent A Car and Budget Rent A Car vehicles in Canada and the U.S. will be smoke-free, with customers and employees prohibited from smoking in any rental vehicle. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Metro Drive

Allure now LaCrosse
The redesigned Buick Allure will be renamed the LaCrosse in Canada, using the name that has been used in the U.S. The Allure name was originally chosen for the Canadian model, as LaCrosse could be misconstrued as a slang term in French. CANADIANDRIVER.COM

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

The 2010 370Z Roadster

Nissan 370Z Roadster out next month

PRICING Nissan Canada recently announced pricing on the all-new 2010 Nissan 370Z Roadster, which goes on sale in October across Canada. The model will start at $46,998 and $48,498 for the six-speed manual and 7-speed automatic transmissions respectively. One model, the Touring Roadster, will be offered in Canada with base, Sport and Navi packages available.

"The 370Z Roadster delivers an exhilarating connection to the air, wind and environment on top of the new Z(R) Coupe's exceptional levels of performance," said Ian Forsyth, director, corporate and product planning, Nissan Canada Inc. "But perhaps unexpected for a car this sporty is its greatly enhanced refinement and quality — as seen in features such as its one-touch, auto-locking convertible top and beautifully crafted interior."

The Roadster includes a standard automatic latching power top and Nissan Intelligent Key, standard heating and cooling ventilated net seats, Bluetooth hands-free phone System, satellite radio and available advanced Nissan navigation system. METRO NEWS SERVICES

A Legacy of excellence

Updated Subaru sedan takes careful aim at mainstream

MARK ATKINSON
for Metro Canada

The 2010 Subaru Legacy

There's just something about Subaru that doesn't appeal to the general public. That's fine for company fans, though, who appreciate the rally history, turbocharged performance and all-wheel drive. When trying to build sales, though, sometimes you have to broaden your sights.

That worked for the 2009 Impreza, whose softening drew cries of criticism from the Subaru faithful, but also drew 50 per cent more sales.

Now it's the 2010 Legacy's turn. It takes careful aim at the mainstream, targeting the Honda Accord, Nissan Altima and Toyota Camry. In an effort to bring its size in line with its Japanese rivals, Subaru stretched the sedan in every direction. The increased space is aimed at improving cabin room while easing access to the rear seats.

The second row went from cramped to comfortable, thanks also to sculpted front seat-backs and longer rear doors that widen the gap available to climb in.

The all-wheel-drive Legacy is powered by a familiar mix of boxer engines, ranging from a 170-hp 2.5-litre SOHC through to the turbocharged 265-hp 2.5-litre DOHC version in the hot-handling GT. The mid-level six-cylinder is now 3.6 litres, and delivers 256 hp. For those concerned with protecting the environment without resorting to expensive hybrid or diesel alternatives, the Legacy PZEV (Partial Zero Emissions Vehicle) is still available.

The biggest news for 2010 is Subaru's new continuously variable transmission (CVT) that replaces a traditional automatic on 2.5i and PZEV models. It uses a chain rather than a belt to deliver greater efficiency, which translates to better power delivery and increased fuel economy.

On the road, the Legacy handles all conditions with aplomb, and is probably the best handling in the class. The steering is light, but direct, the body is controlled in corners, and it feels rock-solid on highways and backroads.

Style-wise, the new Legacy blends many current styling cues floating around the market to create a handsome if slightly forgettable design. You'll find bits of Infiniti, Lexus and Saturn in the crisp sides and arched rooflines.

Thankfully, Subaru keeps its traditional tall greenhouse that's easy to see out of.

The cabin falls into the generic-modern segment. Cover the badges and you could be in a Mazda, Hyundai, Suzuki ... The materials are a step up from before, and the equipment on hand is in line with the class. The front seats are comfortable, and every Legacy now includes tilt and telescoping steering.

Subaru's other priority is to offer a better deal to customers, which means significant price cuts: $3,000 less on entry level models, through $2,000 on the top-of-the-line GT. The new 2.5i starts at only $23,995 with a generous level of standard equipment. The PZEV is next at $26,395 with standard CVT and 16-in aluminum wheels.

For those looking for more power, the 3.6R begins at $31,895, while the GT tops out at a cool $38,995.

Oddities? A few. The plastic-wood in the up-level Limited models is an insult to trees. The antenna for the standard Sirius satellite radio isn't on the roof where you would expect to find it — it's a large, black blister stuck inside the windshield.

Overall, Subaru has created a very successful update of the Legacy: it's familiar to those who were already fans, but its increased size and reduced price will certainly appeal to those shopping the Honda/Nissan/Toyota triangle. The competition should watch its mirrors.

Every Legacy now includes tilt and telescopic steering, among other improvements.

2010 Subaru Legacy

Type: Four-door sedan
Price: from $23,995
Engine: 170-hp 2.5L SOHC to 265-hp 2.5L turbocharged DOHC

Highlights

- Increased space
- Less expensive than before
- PZEV model available for the green driver

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GT model shown

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New steam car record

The British Steam Car team set a new land speed record for a steam-powered car recently at a two-way average speed of 139.843 mph. The 25-foot-long car eclipsed the record Fred Marriott set in 1906 when he went 127.659 mph in a Stanley Steamer Rocket. WIRED.COM

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AutoPilot

Michael Goetz

metronews.ca/autopilot

I was reminded of an emerging automotive trend while re-watching Woody Allen's 1973 film, Sleeper.

The film depicts life in 2173, and one of the more interesting appliances people have then is the Orgasmatron.

It looks like a small, round closet, and people go in there, either singularly or as a couple, to quickly and cleanly fulfill a function its name suggests.

This got me thinking about another home-based device that will also surely be part of our future — and one that even sort of looks like the Orgasmatron. Of course, I speak of home-based automotive refuelling stations.

Some examples are here already and many more are coming, because the way we energize our homes and the way we energize our automobiles seem to be converging.

In the future we will need clean power for our homes and our mobility devices; so no sense re-inventing the wheel for each application.

COURTESY HONDA CANADA

Honda's MCHP units are like little hybrids for homes, generating cleaner electricity for both houses and cars.

For example, there is no technological reason not to have a natural gas fuelling station at home. If you do it overnight with low pressure, you don't even need tanks and compressors.

Electric cars can already be recharged on home current. In the years ahead, we're sure to have high-voltage outlets that are designed specifically for recharging electric car batteries.

And if you got a super green house plastered with solar panels, and have surplus electricity, you'll want to make sure this nice, clean juice gets into your car somehow.

Lots of automakers are putting R&D money in home refueling initiatives, but none more than Honda.

It has operated an experimental Home Energy Station in Torrance, Calif., since 2003. The station uses a fuel cell to generate hydrogen from natural gas, to provide heat and electricity for the home, and for fueling a hydrogen-powered fuel-cell vehicle.

But I think Honda's neatest such device is the MCHP (for Micro-sized Combined Heat and Power-cogeneration). It's basically a little hybrid for your basement. Natural gas powers a small engine, that runs a generator that makes electricity (just like Chevy Volt).

The MCHP is paired with a furnace or boiler to generate heat (up to 3.26 kilowatts), and up to 1.2 kilowatts of electricity, which could displace the electricity that a homeowner would otherwise have to buy off the grid. Honda says a typical house could see a 30 percent reduction in fuel costs.

Honda has sold over 50,000 of these units in Japan since 2003, and is now selling them, for about 10 grand each, in a few states in the U.S. Northeast.

"In the future we will need clean power for our homes and our mobility devices; so no sense re-inventing the wheel for each application."

No silver bullet. But maybe another piece of the puzzle.

And now back to Sleeper, for a final thought on future technology. When our hero, Miles, is given a robot dog, he looks at it suspiciously, and then asks, "Is he housebroken? Or will he leave little batteries all over the place?"

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for over 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

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Super-rev super sedan

AMG E63 a speed demon with all bells and whistles

PETER BLEAKNEY
for Metro Canada

Mercedes Benz's AMG E63, which arrive in Canada later this year, aspires to run with BMW's M5.

REVIEW Mercedes-Benz's AMG vehicles have never been wanting for straight-line speed. So it was no surprise AMG's take on the freshly-minted 2010 E-Class sedan, the 518 hp 6.2L V8 E63, proved a formidable autobahn missile — rock solid, quiet and still pressing the backside hard into the 14-way sport seats at speeds that would have had yours truly on the front pages and behind the pipes in Ontario.

But it's away from this natural AMG habitat where the new E63 surprises. Like the 2009 C63 AMG compact sedan that plays in the same sandbox as the poetic BMW M3, this E63 aspires to run with the $106,900 500 hp V10 BMW M5 — and closes the gap considerably.

The 2010 E63 AMG will be arriving in Canada during the fourth quarter of 2009. It should come in close to the current car's $121,100 list.

The E63 combines a front steel suspension for better road feel with self-leveling rear air suspension. The newly developed three-link front setup sports a wider track (up 56 mm) and increased negative camber for more front-end bite.

Dream car

As with most mega-performance German saloons,

Continued on page 25 ››

2011 Volvo C70 debuting at Frankfurt
The new 2011 Volvo C70 that will be introduced at the Frankfurt Motor Show Sept. 15 will reveal a new front end, rear end and minor changes to the interior design. METRO NEWS SERVICES

McCamus prefers utility

'05 Subaru Impreza works for Canadian actor

MyDrive
Heather Buchan
metronews.ca/mydrive

A 2009 Subaru Impreza. Actor Tom McCamus drives a 2005 model.

Toronto International Film Festival
TIFF

Genie-award winning actor Tom McCamus stars with Patricia Clarkson in Cairo Time, which premieres at TIFF.

Tom McCamus has never been much of a car person. " I just like cars for their usefulness," says the Genie Award-winning actor, who's latest film Cairo Time, which was shot on location in the Egyptian capital for two months last year, premieres at the Toronto International Film Festival, which kicks off this week.

In fact, says the veteran of theatre, television and film, had his 12-year-old jeep not fallen apart a few years ago, he would have driven it forever. But when McCamus's beloved jeep started becoming too unreliable in 2005 and he was afraid it would break down on the highway, he decided it was time to replace it and he did so with a blue 2005 Subaru Impreza.

Whether McCamus starring at the Taragon Theatre in Toronto, or gracing the stage at Shaw and Stratford, where he's been a long-standing member of both theatre companies, the Winnipeg-native does a lot of highway driving.

"I live on farm about an-hour-and-a-half outside Toronto, so the Subaru is good on gas, it's smaller than the jeep and it's an all-wheel drive, which gets me through the snow, especially in the country," he explains.

Of the commutes, he says, "you get used to it after a bit." McCamus will be making the two-hour ride to Toronto for the TIFF premiere of Cairo Time, in which he co-stars with Academy Award-nominated actress Patricia Clarkson, who's called McCamus "a powerhouse of an actor."

Aside from his theatre work and roles in films like I Love a Man in Uniform and The Sweet Hereafter, as well as on TV — most notably as the villain Mason Eckhart in the TV series, Mutant X — McCamus breeds Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers with his wife, actress Chick Reid.

Because of this, his wife drives a Honda CRV. "It's large in the back so we can put dog crates and kennels in there," he explains.

Even though his old jeep is now out of commission, McCamus couldn't bear to part with it and keeps it in his barn. And, he admits that every now and then, he takes her out for a ride on his 50-acre property for old time's sake. That's one ride that will never grow tired.

Heather Buchan is a Toronto-based journalist who has worked at several magazines, including Hello! Canada, where she cut her teeth in the world of celebrities.

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›› Continued from page 24

one is presented with a dizzying number of dynamic possibilities. ESP (electronic stability program) has three settings — On, Sport or Off. How brave are you feeling? A three-level adaptive damper system firms things up when the going gets frisky, or can be set to sport or the more extreme sport plus.

The seven-speed Speedshift MTC features four selectable modes: the short-shifting economy C mode, the more aggressive Sport and Sport Plus modes (throttle response sharpens too), and finally the fully manual M mode wherein the steering-wheel mounted paddles beckon the ratios.

Not a twin-clutch or torque converter type transmission, AMG's unique multi-plate wet clutch setup works a treat. Shifts are smooth and quick and it double-declutches on down-shifts with sexy rev-matching. There is launch control as well.

The soul of any AMG product lies in the engine, and doing duty underhood is AMG's hand-built hi-revving 6208 cc V8 that is massaged to produce 518 hp at 6800 r.p.m. (up 11 hp from last year's E63) and 465 lb.ft. of torque at 5200 r.p.m.

Foregoing the turbo and supercharger route, this DOHC 32-valve V8 makes its power the old fashioned way — lots of displacement and lots of revs.

And what a soundtrack. This big bent-eight gets all NASCAR on us when caned, bellowing like a randy moose.

At 1840 kg, the 2010 E63 is no lightweight, yet its mass is easily dismissed by this fabulous engine and transmission. It dashes to 100 km/h in 4.5 seconds.

The 2010 E63 AMG does not overtly advertise its muscle. Despite the 17mm wider front wings (to cover the increased front track), sill extensions, more aggressive front and rear aprons, smoked headlights, standard 18" alloys and quad tail-pipes, it still looks fairly restrained. Which is probably a good thing considering this car's license-vapourizing potential.

The E73 features the marque's latest safety technologies and pampering its occupants with a finely crafted interior awash in comfort and convenience features.

2010 M-B AMG E63

Type: Premium luxury sedan
Price: from $125,000
Engine: 6208 cc DOHC V8
HP/Torque: 518/465 lb.-ft.

Highlights

- Hand-built engine
- Sport settings
- Latest safety technologies and comfort features

Of course, the E63 AMG is foremost a premium luxury Mercedes-Benz sedan, bristling with the marque's latest safety technologies and pampering its occupants with a finely crafted interior awash in comfort and convenience features.

How much longer hyper-sedans like these will be around is anybody's guess. If you're in the market, best step up to the plate now.

Mini E tested in U.S. cities

RESEARCH Two months into its field trials of electric-powered automobiles, Mini USA is gathering valuable, real-world data from 450 drivers of Mini E electric-powered vehicles. These vehicles are now in daily use in metropolitan New York, New Jersey and Los Angeles, where they are being driven by private customers, municipalities, universities, public utilities, non-profit and commercial organizations. The MINI E is the first chapter of BMW Group's Project i, which aims to research and develop a new type of vehicle specifically to meet the needs of the world's fastest growing mega-cities, where the majority of vehicle growth will come in the next 20 years. FROM CARGUIDE

E-Class safer: Mercedes study

A recent study conducted by Mercedes-Benz claims that drivers of its E-Class vehicles have a 10.4 per cent lower risk of being fatally injured when compared to similar vehicles of other brands. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sold on Celica

Sports car a smart buy but watch for mods

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
for Metro Canada

Second Gear

WHAT:
Toyota Celica, 2000-2005

VEHICLE TYPE:
Sports coupe

HISTORY/DESCRIPTION:
The last generation of Toyota's popular sports coupe was sold from 1999 until slumping sales killed it off in 2005.

Canadian shoppers could pick between a GT and a more powerful GT-S model. Both got a 1.8 litRE engine, tuned to make either 140 or 180 horsepower.

A four-speed automatic was available, and a five-speed or six-speed manual was standard for drivers who like to shift their own gears. The five-speed was standard equipment on the Celica GT, and the six-speed stick came with the GT-S.

All Celica's were front-wheel drive.

Look for features like a sunroof, keyless remote, power accessories and even leather seating.

WHAT OWNERS LIKE:
As with most sports cars, owners rave about styling and performance, especially where the up-level GT-S is concerned.

Those who drive modestly report decent fuel mileage, and many owners cite Toyota's reputation for reliability was a major factor in their Celica purchase.

WHAT OWNERS HATE:
Some owners of the GT-S model note that the high-revving engine lacks usable power in day-to-day driving. This engine is an import-tuner's dream — but it requires maximum revs to get the car moving at full speed. Problem is, pulling off 8,000 RPM gearshifts is a good way to get pulled over.

Interior storage space and trunk space aren't highly rated, and most Celica owners long for an easier time getting in and out of their ride.

COMMON ISSUES:
Celicas in the used market are commonly upgraded and modified. Minor modifications like an air intake or exhaust system aren't typically cause for alarm—though they should be checked out for quality of the parts and installation work.

Note that some modifications may violate local laws.

Currently out of production, the Toyota Celica is still popular among sports car fans.

Avoid a model with major engine modifications like a turbocharger or nitrous oxide injection unless you're thoroughly familiar with their operation. Improperly used, either of the above could cause catastrophic engine damage with minimal notice.

When in doubt, stick to a model that's stock — or close to it.

Note the condition of the clutch, brakes and tires on a test drive. These consumable parts tend to wear more quickly in sportier cars, so you'll want to ensure the previous owner isn't trying to pass the cost onto you.

Inside, be sure to check for proper operation of all windows, the sunroof, and the air conditioner.

Uncertain? Take the vehicle to a Toyota dealer or your favorite mechanic for a check-over.

It may save you an expensive headache down the line.

Some earlier GT-S models suffered from oil consumption problems and engine knock. If you're considering an earlier GT-S, be sure it runs smoothly and without any questionable sounds. You'll also want to confirm that the exhaust is free of blue smoke.

A compression test on an older used Celica isn't a bad idea—just to be safe. Your mechanic can perform one in a few minutes.

THE VERDICT:
As a used sports car, a well-maintained Celica should prove a mainly trouble-free ride.

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Ford F-150 Raptor an off-roader's dream come true

Preparing to blaze new trails, the all-new 2010 Ford F-150 SVT Raptor is ready for the most challenging desert adventures. But this purpose-built, high-speed off-road truck also is engineered to be versatile enough to take on the everyday commute.

"With Raptor, we're taking the established performance of the F-150 to the next level and proving just how much Ford trucks can do," said Derrick Kuzak, Ford's group vice president for global product development. "The F-150 SVT Raptor doesn't just appear to be off-road-ready. It is off-road-ready. It was built with the off-road enthusiast in mind and will give consumers an off-road experience no other vehicle can."

Ford's special vehicle Team, known for engineering high-performance vehicles such as the Ford Shelby GT500, has outdone itself with the Raptor.

The Raptor was built specifically to fulfill the desires of the highly demanding and growing off-road performance market. High-performance off-road trucks are a market that is largely untapped, allowing SVT Raptor to set the bar for this type of vehicle.

Ford's special vehicle team, known for engineering high-performance vehicles such as the Ford Shelby GT500, have applied their talents to a truck with the F-150 SVT Raptor.

The Raptor also has a racing-ready version – F-150 SVT Raptor R – that has established its racing pedigree and performance capability.

Built alongside the F-150 at Ford's Dearborn Truck Plant in Michigan, noticeable exterior differences between the Ford F-150 SVT Raptor and the conventional F-150 start with a distinctive grille that has the Ford name carved into it.

Additional exterior differentiation includes front bumper, front fascia and fenders, functional vented hood extractors, fender extractors with "SVT" bored out, visible FOX Racing Shox and skid plates on the underbody for protection.

Another key difference between Raptor and the base F-150 is that the SVT truck is more than seven inches wider, which was necessary to harness the wider suspension and larger tires.

FROM CARGUIDE

Engine power

• The Ford F-150 SVT Raptor is powered by F-150's proven 5.4-litre Triton V-8 three-valve engine, which delivers 320 horsepower and 390 ft.-lb. of torque to power the truck through any terrain it faces.

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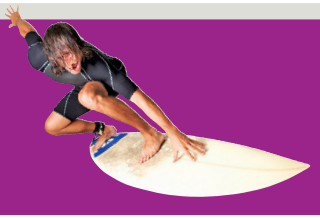
Postcards by phone

HazelMail is a new iPhone app that lets you instantly turn vacation photos taken with your iPhone into postcards — then prints, stamps and mails them for you, anywhere in the world. The HazelMail app is free and includes one free postcard. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Travel



Surfs up Vancouver

In professional surfing, it's all about big waves — and the big prize. Come fall, Tofino, on Vancouver Island's wild west coast, will set the scene for Canada's first-ever pro surfing competition (Oct. 25 to 31). More than 100 professional surfers will hit the beaches, gunning for points during this World Qualifying Series. The competitor that secures the most marks throughout the series will take home the $145,000 purse. METRO NEWS SERVICES

TRAVELDESK@METRONEWS.CA

An insider's tips on touring Napa

Valley resident Susan Costner-Kenward shares her picks on where to eat, drink and shop

Susan Costner-Kenward runs Olivina, an eco-friendly beauty range that is inspired by flora of the Napa Valley where she lives, with all-natural ingredients including olives, lavender, figs, lemons and grapeseed oil. A long resident of this famous wine-growing area of California, and a culinary expert as well as beauty guru, she gives us her tips for the perfect driving route through the valley. (Visit olivinanapavalley.com)

SUSAN COSTNER-KENWARD
for Metro World News

Start out in Napa on Highway 29 going north. The Silverado Trail is a more beautiful drive but it is easier to get in and out of the small towns on Highway 29, which is not a highway in the proper sense but merely a two-lane road through the centre of Napa Valley.

Bypass the town of Napa, Calif., and head straight to Yountville, the home of upmarket gourmet restaurant the French Laundry and some of the best restaurants in the valley.

If you want to start your day with a glass of champagne, pop in to Domain Chandon for a flute of Californian sparkling wine and a look around.

For your first tasting a must is the new Ma(i)sonry wine co-op in Yountville which is owned by Blackbird Vineyards. The old building was a boutique guesthouse until 2007, when it was transformed into the coop; the façade was taken back to the beautiful old stone walls, and it was filled with antiques for sale.

You can sit in the lovely courtyard, enjoy tasting wines from a very edited list of other highly regarded wines, including TOR wines, which are from our family vineyard.

Take a drive around Yountville to Vintage 1870, which is a former winery converted into a small shopping centre, with stores including a terrific wine shop, and Napa Style, a food and homeware shop run by Michael Chiarello, a TV chef from the local area.

Yountville is also home to some great restaurants, but I especially recommend the French food at Bistro Jeanty and Bouchon, or the Italian cuisine at Chiarello's restaurant, Bottega.

A winetasking alternative: Take an early-morning balloon ride over the valley

Drive back onto 29 for a visit to The Mondavi winery in Oakville, then the one owned by Hollywood film director Francis Ford Coppola, Rubicon Estates in nearby Rutherford. This is truly one of the most beautiful and historic wineries in the Napa Valley.

I also generally suggest Beringer Wines Estates in Saint Helena as they have a terrific tour and the vineyard is historic.

Charles Krug is across the street and also boasts a great history, and a tour that's worth experiencing. Off the highway in Rutherford is the Silver Oak Winery and in Calistoga you can find Chateau Montelena, the winery made famous in last year's movie Bottle Shock.

PHOTOS BY JUSTIN SULLIVAN/GETTY IMAGES

Clouds move in the sky above Artesa Winery in Carneros Valley in Napa, Calif.

Shopping: Check out the main street of Saint Helena for great wine and wine gadget stores, terrific men and women's clothing shops, some over-the-top home stores and terrific chocolates. My favourites are Vintage Home, Flats, Pearl, M Design, Reeds and Woodhouse Chocolates.

Markets: During the summer and fall you can buy local produce at the Saint Helena Farmer's Market every Friday morning, if not, there's a terrific market in Saint Helena called Sunshine and we have a Dean & Deluca. Multitude of riches.

Eating out: For dinner try Press in St Helena, which is owned by Leslie Rudd from famous New York deli Dean and Deluca, and a big hangout for local vintners especially on Friday nights. Other options are Cook, Terra or Cindy's Backstreet Kitchen in Saint Helena, or Ad Hoc, Mustards or REdd in Yountville.

Other ideas: Looking for an alternative to winetasting? Take an early-morning balloon ride over the valley, or have a relaxing mud bath at the beautiful Solege resort in Yountville. If you're feeling outdoorsy, there are tons of organized bike trips, or you could go trekking at Lake Hennessey. And you can always go olive oil tasting, if you get sick of wine.

A field worker with the vineyard management company Vinewerkes takes a break from picking merlot grapes during a night harvest for Artesa Winery in Napa, Calif.

Read more on page 29 ››

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Yet more fees
Continental Airlines Inc. has said it will charge some coach passengers on international flights $50 US to check a second bag. Several other U.S. carriers — American Airlines, Delta Air Lines and US Airways — have announced similar fees in recent days. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fall fairs, tastings and more in the Napa Valley

Continued from page 28 ››

If you're planning a visit to California's famous Napa Valley this fall, here are some fairs, tastings and other events to add to your itinerary.

• On Oct. 2, Main Street in St. Helena hosts a "Cheers! St. Helena" street fair, 6 p.m.-9 p.m., where over 50 Napa Valley wineries pour in over 50 locations. Wine-tasting tickets are US$5 per person for a single taste to $35 per person for a nightly pass to taste everywhere. If you're cycling from your hotel, there's even a free bike valet. Details at cheerssthelena.com.

• The city of Napa's Oxbow Public Market hosts "local's nights" on Tuesdays, with special prices at the Oxbow Wine Merchant&Wine Bar on private label wines, draft beers and artisanal cheeses, plus fresh oysters for $1 during happy hour at the popular Hog Island Oyster Bar. Details at oxbowpublicmarket.com.

• In Calistoga, there's a Saturday Stroll with tastings and live music Oct. 2 and Nov. 7, 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Tickets for wine tasting are $25 for two, and an art walk on Oct. 8. Details at calistogavisitors.com.

• Enjoy some of the Napa Valley's best wines for just 10 cents at 14 different tasting rooms in downtown Napa with the "Taste Napa Downtown" tasting card. The card is $20 from The Napa Valley Visitor Information Center in Napa Town Center and also provides savings on corkage fees at many downtown restaurants and area lodging. Details at napadowntown.com.

• Don't miss the culinary scene in Yountville. The Napa Valley city boasts four Michelin-starred restaurants: French Laundry, Bouchon, Bistro Jeanty and Redd. But there also good deals to be had for foodies on a budget: In St. Helena, enjoy a family-style, three-course early dinner at the Martini House restaurant with the staff for $20 plus tax and tip.

• And on the first Thursday of each month, Brix restaurant in Napa offers a series of dining experiences showcasing street foods of India, Thailand, and Italy, $35 plus tax. Details at brix.com.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New England crimson

Fall foliage top picks for travellers headed to the northeast states

When it comes to autumn colour, New England's reputation is five-star.

So are Westerners blowing it out their cowboy hats when they claim their golden aspens and cottonwoods can go head to head with Northeastern maples and oaks in October?

"I have never heard any New Englander say, ever, 'I must go to the Rockies to see fall colour.' No. We wait until winter to see the powder snow for that trip," said Yankee magazine editor Mel Allen.

Allen added that he loves the West's "mountains, the deserts, the incredible wind-carved rock formations. But no matter how much it wants to sell Aspen as the defining colour of fall, it just doesn't fly."

Here's a fall foliage smackdown, with recommendations for places to go leaf-peeping in the Northeast's king crimsons:

• **Connecticut:** Route 169 is described by Yankee senior editor Polly Bannister as "one of New England's prettiest country roads" as it runs through 50 kilometres of Connecticut farms and fields. "In autumn, this National Scenic Byway is at its best: a gentle landscape of trees and stone walls glides its way through historic towns from Woodstock to Lisbon, all with a backdrop of brilliant foliage in a palette of red, orange, gold, yellow and russet," Bannister said.

JIM COLE/AP PHOTO

This file photo shows leaves beginning to change colour on the Swift River along the Kancamagus Highway in the White Mountain National Forest in Albany, N.H.

• **Maine:** "Begin in Rangeley, Maine, forcing yourself to leave the lake-studded town, and head north on Route 16, then follow Route 27 through Kingfield, then along the Carrabassett River to Sugarloaf Mountain," suggested Allen, the Yankee editor. "In this 45-mile or so drive, your mouth will drop at least a dozen times, and no more so as you wind around what locals call 'Oh My Gosh Corner' and the mountain appears as if dropped from the sky."

• **New Hampshire:** The Kancamagus Highway, which runs between Lincoln and Conway, N.H., on State Route 112, celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. "With no houses, no restaurants, not even gas stations, the Kancamagus Highway is all about breathtaking panoramic views of the White Mountain National Forest, particularly from the height of land at Kancamagus Pass," said YankeeMagazine.com editor Barbara Hall.

• **Massachusetts:** Yankee assistant editor Justin Shatwell said Massachusetts' northwest region sometimes gets overlooked, "but in fall it's the place to visit. The Mohawk Trail passes by a lot of state forests, but you don't even have to get off the road to see some striking foliage. The trail is part of Route 2 and runs through the Berkshire Mountains.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Travel in brief

DUNCAN, B.C. Non-profit Providence Farm is the host site for the 12th annual Vancouver Island Feast of Fields, a one-day gourmet harvest festival set for Sept. 20. Visitors can sample offerings from chefs, winemakers, brewers, farmers and food artisans, say organizers. It's the first time the festival has returned to a previous location. Last year it was held in Victoria. For details on tickets, go to feastoffields.com or call 778-430-6604.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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tico.ca

Tourism Police

Acapulco has created a security program called the Tourism Police, who will help safeguard the city and ensure "each visitor enjoys a flawless travel experience." Members have been trained at the Acapulco Police Academy and the State of Guerrero's University of Tourism. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

More than just football

Manchester offers a quirky mixture of cultural attractions

NINA ETTRUP
Metro World News

Manchester is best known as the home of two famous football teams. But "the capital of the North" has a lot more to offer than footballers' and their shopaholic wives.

Musical "Madchester"

When the long-haired hippies in the musical, Hair, sang about "Manchester, England, England" it was neither the first nor the last time the city had a musical connection. Both The Smiths and New Order were formed in Manchester, from where the "Madchester" scene of the late '80s sprung up, inspiring the Britpop sound of the '90s. Pioneers of Madchester included The Happy Mondays and The Stone Roses with their mixture of indie rock and dance. The club La Hacienda, which was owned by the boys in New Order, was the focal point for the whole Madchester movement. La Hacienda is no more, but Manchester is till ripe with music, especially in the Northern Quarter area where record shops including the well-stocked Piccadilly Records, which looks like something taken directly out of Nick Hornby's hit novel High Fidelity. (Piccadillyrecords.com)

Northern Quarter

New York has the Lower East Side, Paris its Marais, London its Soho; Manchester's hip neighbourhood is the Northern Quarter. Vintage shops, organic cafes, art book stores, dark little pubs and experimental music venues sit side by side on Oldham Street, Tib Street and Thomas Street. Vintage clothes shops Rags to Bitches (Rags-to-bitches.co.uk) and Retro Rehab (Retro-rehab.co.uk) are musts for any vintage princess dreaming of sequined dresses, diamond cuffs and feathered hair accessories.

Need to know

- **Where to stay:** There's accommodation for all budgets in Manchester. Hotel International across from Piccadilly Station is highly recommended. (From 40 Euro per night, thehotelinternational.co.uk). A short walk down the street you'll find warehouse-turned-hotel Malmaison. The Mal Bar is worth checking out even if you're not staying at the hotel. (From 69 Euro, malmaison-manchester.com)
- **Where to eat:** Manchester is a melting pot of different cultures and that shows in its restaurant options. From greasy Chinese to fine French – Manchester has it all. Why not try the Michael Caines' Restaurant at the Abode hotel, which has been voted the best restaurant in Manchester several years in a row? It's nowhere nearly as expensive as it sounds. Visti michaelcaines.com
- **How to get there:** Manchester Airport is about 15km south-west of the city centre. The train from the airport to Piccadilly Station takes less that 30 minutes and costs 4 Euro.
- **Web:** visitmanchester.com

NINA ETTRUP/
METRO WORLD NEWS

JAN CHLEBIK/METRO WORLD NEWS

The well-stocked Piccadilly Records looks like something taken out of Nick Hornby's hit novel High Fidelity.

Eccentric

Vivienne Westwood was born in the Manchester area so it makes sense that this imaginative designer has her own shop in the city. An older English gentleman is the doorman and welcomes you into the Westwood universe, which is definitely not for Plain Janes. The fact that Pamela Anderson stars in the new ads says it all, doesn't it? (viviennewestwood.com).

Architecture

Manchester has a quirky mixture of really old and brand-new. Old, crumbling crooked churches, sit side by side with high-rise buildings in glass and metal. It is not always a pretty mix but it is interesting to explore. If you fancy some more formal architectural sightseeing pay a visit to the Urbis museum, which offers changing exhibitions that all have "city life" as a theme. Entry to Urbis is free (urbis.org.uk).

Read more on page 32 »

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Swinging Sixties
From Oct. 15 to Jan. 24, London's National Portrait Gallery will feature an exhibition of photos from the 1960s. The 150 pictures include rare portraits of the Beatles, David Bowie, Jimi Hendrix and the Rolling Stones; see npg.org.uk. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Pelee: The place to relax

Canada's southernmost community enjoys its quietness

The hike to Fish Point, at the southern tip of Pelee Island, is suitably dramatic.

Pelee is Canada's southernmost inhabited place, a flat, 42-square-kilometre island in the middle of Lake Erie with close to 300 permanent residents and some of the country's rarest flora and fauna.

To get to Fish Point you follow a winding forest trail for one and half kilometres until it reaches a pebbly beach — and that's where the real excitement begins.

You turn left and head down a bare peninsula that extends more than a kilometre out into Erie's green waters. For much of that distance, this finger of sand is less than a dozen metres wide.

On a windy day in late August, waves crashed on the west side of the peninsula, while the east side was weirdly calm. The only signs of life were a pair of hikers and the flock of seagulls occupying the tip. The birds were all facing the same direction, lined up like vigilant soldiers defending Canada from invasion.

It is a glorious spot on an island otherwise known for offering not much to do. And for many tourists, that's a good thing.

They rent cottages by the week or book B&Bs for short stays. Available activities include gazing at the sunset, hunting for "Pelee glass" (bits of old glassware washed up on the beach) or cycling the quiet roads that circle the island and cross the interior through fields of soybeans.

Lucky visitors might come across a prickly pear cactus (a plant more commonly seen in Mexico) or a smallmouth salamander (a species found nowhere else in Canada, according to a plaque on the island).

MIKE FUHRMANN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The narrow peninsula at Fish Point on Pelee Island, Ont., extends for over a kilometre into Lake Erie. It is the southern tip of Canada's southernmost inhabited place.

As the largest of several islands in Lake Erie's western basin, Pelee (pronounced PEE-lee) also serves as an important stopover site for migrating birds. Uninhabited Middle Island nearby is Canada's most southern point.

"Pelee is laid-back," says Judy Munro of Tecumseh, Ont., stepping out of Conorlee's bakery, at the northwest corner of the island, with a round loaf of sunflower bread under her arm.

"For a lot of people, this would drive them crazy, but Pelee is my kind of place," adds 63-year-old Munro, who's on her second visit here. "It's good for somebody who wants to get back to their own inner self, to restore their energies."

Pelee was incorporated as a township in the 1860s and became a prosperous farming community after marshland was drained. The long growing season — Pelee is at the same latitude as northern California — favours grape cultivation, and the first winery opened in 1868 (said to be the oldest in Canada). Several other wineries followed, and by 1900 there were almost 800 residents.

The winemaking tradition continues, with over 200 hectares of vineyards producing fruit for Pelee Island Winery. The company runs tours at its modern facility and offers an unusual dining option: visitors choose from among items such as steaks, pork chops and shish kebabs and cook the food themselves on gas barbecues set up near picnic tables. Of course, anyone so inclined can wash it all down with a bottle of Pelee Island wine.

Pelee has one celebrity resident — author Margaret Atwood, who maintains a secluded home on the island. But locals guard her privacy. Ask anyone where she resides and you're liable to hear the stock, tongue-in-cheek reply: "Margaret who?"

Getting to Pelee requires some effort. It's a one and half hour ride on a slow ferry from Kingsville, Ont. There are only a few crossings each day, and you need to reserve in advance if you're bringing a car.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

If you go ...

- Bicycles are available for rent across from the ferry dock. Some B&Bs offer complimentary use of bikes.
- For a fish dinner, try the perch or pickerel at the Anchor and Wheel Inn. For pastries, head to Conorlee's bakery and sample the apple streusel cobbler, peach crumble tart or strawberry almond rhubarb cake.
- For information on B&Bs and cottage rentals, go to pelee.org. Ferry schedules are at ontarioferries.com/jii/english.

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Celebrate Jane Austen

The Jane Austen Festival will be making its annual return to the city of Bath this September, attracting people from around the world to celebrate the popular author's writing. Visit janeausten.co.uk/festival. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Grab a nice, cold pint of Boddingtons

>> Continued from page 30

Cheers

The Brits are good at drinking beer — and that is as true in Manchester as anywhere else. The local beer is called Boddingtons, "the Cream of Manchester," and is served at most pubs. The first pint of Boddingtons was brewed in 1778, but it is still the third bestselling bitter in Britain.

Explosion

One of the most distinctive sights in Manchester in recent times was Thomas Heatherwick's sculpture B of the Bang, located in Sport City. The 56 metres tall metal sculpture with giant points was commissioned in connection with The Commonwealth Games in 2002 and was named after a quote by the runner Linford Christie, who said that he begins running as soon as he hears the B in the starting pistol's Bang! Catch it while you can - unfortunately parts of the structure have fallen off and the sculpture is being dismantled by July.

Shops and Sushi

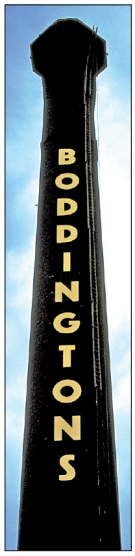
With the low pound it's a great time to hit The Trafford Centre, Manchester's main shopping mall. There are 250 shops in this tacky Las Vegas-style shopping centre with its domes, columned arcades and brand-new sculptures in "ye olde style" and multitude of cheesy frescoes, fountains and marble. When your legs get tired, there are plenty of coffee bars and restaurants to choose from. Have fun at Yo Sushi! in the Selfridges department store. Here you sit at the bar where you can watch the chefs prepare the sushi, Asian salads and hot dishes that are then put on a conveyor belt, for you to pick what you want. The colour of the plate determines the price of the dish. (Traffordcentre.co.uk)

Terrorism

Manchester divides its recent history into before and after 1996. That was when a bomb placed by the IRA exploded in the city centre, wounded more than 200 people and destroyed part of the city centre. That set off a huge renovation and the building of new buildings, which has changed the way the city looks. A traditional red mail box, which miraculously survived the blast, stand as a memorial in front of the department store Marks & Spencer, where the bomb exploded.

High Up

A fine way of getting an overview of Manchester is by going for a ride on the Wheel of Manchester, a 60-metre high Ferris wheel in the centre of town. The closed cabins seat eight people and you can see the whole of the centre of town unfold like a labyrinth under-



Pubs abound in Manchester, where most locals drink Boddingtons (left), the third best-selling bitter in Britain.

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Tutankhamun Canopic Coffinette (detail), gold, carnelian and coloured glass, (H)39 cm. New Kingdom, Dynasty 18. Photograph © Sandro Vannini

Ontario

Ship ahoy
Expedia.ca is offering room reservations aboard Norwegian Star, a luxury cruise ship that will be docked in Vancouver in February and March 2010 during the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Rates start at $769 per night, including all meals (taxes and ship fees extra). METRO NEWS SERVICES

Canadian film fests

Squeeze a flick or two into your travel schedule

This city is blessed with an abundance of film festivals.

Apart from the obvious one, there's HotDocs, Inside Out, Reel Asian, Reel World, Toronto After Dark, the Canadian Film Fest — the list goes on and on.

But what about the rest of the country? Turns out, there are plenty of Canadian film festivals that are either worthy destinations of themselves, particularly if you want to know what's happening regionally, or worth knowing about in case your travel schedule coincides fortuitously with them. Here's a quick rundown:

St. John's

• 20th Annual St. John's International Women's Film Festival (Oct. 20 to 24). Approximately 80 works by women directors, producers and writers. womensfilmfestival.com.

• Nickel Independent Film Festival (June 22 to 26, 2010). An independent film and video festival supporting local, Canadian and foreign works. nickelfestival.com.

Halifax

• 29th Atlantic Film Festival and Music & Image Program (Sept. 17 to 26). This year's program includes more than 225 titles from around the world. It kicks off with an opening night gala party to celebrate the world premiere of Trailer Park Boys: Countdown to Liquor Day. atlanticfilm.com

Fredericton

• 9th Annual Silver Wave Film Festival (Nov. 5 to 8). Screens feature films, documentaries and short films shot in the province and produced by New Brunswick filmmakers. swfilmfest.com.

Toronto International Film Festival
TIFF

Montreal

• 12th Montreal International Documentary Film Festival (Nov. 11 to 21). Each year, the festival brings over 1 00 documentaries from around the world to Montreal. ridm.qc.ca.

Ottawa

• Ottawa International Animation Festival (Oct. 14 to 18). This fest is the largest of its kind in North America, attracting film buffs, art lovers, filmmakers, and cartoon fans from around the world to the nation's capital. ottawa.awn.com.

Winnipeg

• WNDX — Winnipeg's Festival of Film and Video Art (Oct. 8 to Oct. 11). Established in 2006, WNDX features ground-breaking work by Canadian filmmakers and video artist. wndx.org.

• ReelPride (Oct. 13 to 17). Winnipeg's gay and lesbian film festival. reelpride.org.

Calgary

• 10th Anniversary Calgary International Film Festival (Sept. 25 to Oct. 4). With 188 films from 100 countries including features, shorts and documentaries. This year sees the launch of Mavericks, whereby 10 ground-breaking films from around the globe will compete for a $25,000 cash prize. calgaryfilm.com.

Edmonton

• The 23rd Annual Edmonton International Film Festival (Sept. 25 to Oct. 3). Screening approximately 50 features and 100 shorts at Empire Theatres in Edmonton City Centre. edmontonfilmfest.com

• The 28th Annual Global Visions Film Festival (Nov. 5 to 8). This festival shows the work of documentarians from Canada and around the world. globalvisionsfestival.com

Banff

• 2009 Banff Mountain Film and Book Festivals (Oct. 31 to Nov. 8). An international film competition featuring the world's best footage on mountain subjects. This year marks the 34th anniversary of the festival. banffcentre.ca/mountainculture

Vancouver

• The 28th Annual Vancouver International Film Festival (Oct. 1 to 16). VIFF presents more than 350 films from more than 70 countries. The 2009 lineup will be posted on viff.org as of Sept. 12. viff.org

• 13th Annual Vancouver Asian Film Festival (Nov. 5 to 8). Watch for this year's program to be announced at vaff.org.

Victoria

• Antimatter Film Festival (Oct. 9 to 17). Dedicated to the exhibition and nurturing of film and video as art, Antimatter bills itself as the premier showcase of experimental cinema in the West. antimatter.ws.

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Disney Offer: Available for most nights September 27 to December 17, 2009. The number of rooms allocated for this offer is limited. Tickets are for one theme park per day and must be used within 14 days of 1st use. No group rates or other discounts apply. Excludes alcoholic beverages and gratuities. Children 3-9 must choose from the children's menu. As to Disney Photos, logos and properties: ©Disney. Flights are from Toronto via Air Transat or Canjet. Prices shown are per person, based on double occupancy. Taxes and travel related fees are additional as noted above. For full terms and conditions and insurance refer to the Florida brochure. Transat Holidays is a division of Transat Tours Canada Inc., a member of Transat A.T. Inc., and is registered as a travel wholesaler in Ontario (Reg no. 50009486) with offices at 191 The West Mall, Suite 800, Etobicoke, ON M9C 5K8.

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Back2Broadway
September is Back2Broadway Month in New York City, and as of Sept. 9, celebrations will highlight the new season and offer up concerts, talkbacks and free events like the annual free concert Broadway on Broadway on Sept. 13. See ILoveNYTheater.com for details. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Is Stonehenge overrated? Book offers options

Is Stonehenge overrated? Too many people at Machu Picchu? And what about the crowds at the Grand Canyon?

A new book, Off the Tourist Trail: 1,000 Unexpected Travel Alternatives says some of the world's most famous destinations are over-visited, overpriced and overrated.

But for every place it smacks down, the book suggests alternatives that provide comparable if lesser-known experiences.

The book's entry on the Great Pyramids of Giza complains that "Cairo's urban sprawl has seen houses and fast-food chains expand to the very edge of the ancient site, where an unbroken procession of tour buses spill out their charges." Some of the alternatives — like the Pyramids of Meroe in Sudan, 230 kilometres from Khartoum — are not necessarily more appealing to the average traveller, simply because they are harder to reach, but others, like the Pyramid of Cestius, in Rome, are worth considering.

As an alternative to Stonehenge, the book suggests other ancient stone circles like Avebury, 135 kilometres from London, as well as places in Sweden and Germany. For alternatives to Petra, the ancient city carved from red sandstone in Jordan, the book recommends not just the rock-hewn churches of Lalibela, Ethiopia, but also the cliff dwellings of Mesa Verde National Park in Colorado and the rock pueblos of Bandelier National Monument in New Mexico.

Whether you'd honestly consider beaches in Perth, Australia, and the Outer Hebrides as realistic alternatives to Miami Beach or Cape Cod probably depends on where you live and how many flyer miles you feel like using up. But ideas from Off the Tourist Trail are thought-provoking: Isla del Sol on the border of Bolivia and Peru rather than Machu Picchu; Iguazu Falls in Argentina and Brazil instead of Niagara; Tikal, the ancient Mayan step pyramids of Guatemala, instead of Mexico's Chichen Itza; and Bryce Canyon, Utah, instead of the Grand Canyon in Arizona.

The book, a US$40 hardcover from DK Eyewitness Travel, has separate sections on cities, ruins, natural wonders, festivals, great journeys, architectural marvels, beaches, sports and activities, and arts and culture. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

[1]To redeem TD Points for travel purchases charged to your Card that are not booked through the TD Visa Travel Rewards Centre (the "Centre"), Cardholder must contact the Centre after the travel purchase has been posted to the Account and within 90 days from the transaction date of the travel purchase. The required TD Points will be redeemed from the TD Points balance available on the date TD Points are redeemed through the Centre towards the travel purchase, not the transaction date of the travel purchase. The amount that will be credited towards the travel purchase will be equal to the value of the TD Points redeemed. If there are insufficient TD Points available to cover the entire amount of the travel purchase, the Account will only be credited by the value of the TD Points redeemed. Any amount of the travel purchase not covered by the TD Points redeemed will remain on the Account for payment. TD Points must be redeemed in 10,000-point increments. [2]Applies to Cardholders only. [3]Bonus TD Points will be awarded to the new TD First Class Travel Visa Infinite Account upon approval. Offer applies to new Accounts only. Offer may be changed, extended or withdrawn at any time without notice. Cannot be combined with any other offer. ®Trade-mark of The Toronto-Dominion Bank.

Disney Museum opens in October

SAN FRANCISCO Starting Oct. 1, you'll be able to get a taste of Disney in San Francisco. That's when The Walt Disney Family Museum opens, with 10 galleries focusing on different chapters in the life of Walt Disney himself, from his early years in Kansas City to his arrival in Hollywood in the 1920s to his technological innovations, like synchronizing sound to a cartoon.

Displays will include the Oscar statuettes awarded to Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs — one full size and seven little ones — along with the earliest known drawings of Mickey Mouse. Other exhibits include listening stations, interactive displays and more than 200 video monitors.

The museum is located at 104 Montgomery St. It will be open every day except Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Admission is $20 for adults, $12.50 for kids 6-17; available online at waltdisney.org. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In brief

VATICAN CITY The Vatican says Friday nights at its museums have been a great success, so it is extending the initiative to include September and October. Nighttime visits will continue in September and October from 7 to 11 p.m.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Disney brings back Jackson film
Michael Jackson is to be honoured at Disneyland. The theme park is considering bringing back Captain EO, a 17-minute 3-D movie starring the late King of Pop which was originally shown at the venue in the '80s and '90s. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Entertainment

Hottest Torso
Daniel Craig has been voted Hollywood's Hottest Torso in a lovefilm.com poll for the scene in Casino Royale where he emerges from the ocean wearing a pair of tiny blue swimming shorts. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Young Galaxy quest

Band leaves label Arts & Crafts and declares independence

JOHN KEILLOR
for Metro Canada

Young Galaxy has returned to indie's roots. After splitting with hip Toronto label Arts & Crafts, the Montreal quartet has produced its own second recording, Invisible Republic. It has punchier sound, luscious orchestration, and more focused songs than their self-titled 2007 debut.

Stephen Ramsay and Catherine McCandless, the band's founding couple, explain how in recording Invisible Republic, they remastered their creative process.

"It was a very different experience from writing the first album," says Ramsay, while patio-sitting at Toronto's Black Bull Tavern. "The first recording was done before we ever played any shows. Over time those songs morphed and changed on stage, still growing. Invisible Republic was recorded after we had already played all the songs live, a lot. So they were mature and ready."

"Also, we began writing these new songs with less of a definite end in sight," says McCandless. "Parts and sections came together only after the whole band had been working collectively. They're more organic to the band." Stephen Kamp and Max Henry are the other, and much newer, half of Young Galaxy.

Invisible Republic is definitely more fleshed out than the band's first disc, and more diverse; Dreams highlights Ramsay's rich baritone, silkily serenading the listener with guitar and violin, featuring indie fiddler Joshua Zubot, while in Queen Drum McCandless croons over shoegazing rock accompanied by an avalanche of drums and keyboards.

The crystalline sound is engineer Tony Doogan's doing, a Glaswegian indie studio star who has mixed albums by Belle and Sebastian, Mogwai, The Pastels, Hefner, David Byrne and Super Furry Animals.

"Tony's only in his 30s now, but he's been working in studios since he was 18," says Ramsay. "He can take the music in any direction, and he's tough but fair. He'll force you to make a decision on the spot, and that took some adapting. But with Tony prodding us, our first instincts were usually best."

Doogan's contribution adds a degree of indie pedigree to Invisible Republic, and it automatically thrusts Young Galaxy onto a wider stage than is normally graced by such a new independent band.

"It's been a very public experience, finding our voice," says McCandless. "We want to contribute to music, to give back to rock and pop history, as a way of thanking all the great bands who wrote those songs we never stopped loving."

Invisible Republic, a declaration of Young Galaxy's independence, is now out.

Galactic Republic

- Invisible Republic is the new album from Young Galaxy.

Young Galaxy performs at the Drake Underground tomorrow night.

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Stafford expecting first child

Thanks to the help of a surrogate, The Young and the Restless star Michelle Stafford — who plays Phyllis Summers — is expecting her first child this December. PEOPLE.COM

9 a remarkably uplifting film

9

Director: Shane Acker
Stars: Elijah Wood, Jennifer Connolly
Classification: PG
Rating:

NED EHBAR
for Metro Canada

#9 (voiced by Elijah Wood), #7 (voiced by Jennifer Connelly), and #5 (voiced by John C. Reilly) face peril in Shane Acker's epic adventure fantasy 9.

REVIEW With more and more computer-animated films coming out each year, it's easy for a non-Pixar entry to get lost in the shuffle.

Hopefully such a fate will not befall Shane Acker's debut, 9, the feature adaptation of his Oscar-winning short about a band of scrappy burlap dolls-come-to-life fighting against frightening contraptions that are all that's left of the war between men and machines. (The machines won, by the way.)

Like the little burlap refugees, the film itself comes off as scrappy, full of gumption. By focusing on characters less than a foot tall, it forces the audience to see the world from a much different vantage point, where much of our cast-off scrap can come in handy: Exact-o knives as sabers, headlight bulbs as torches.

And in the wreckage of an apocalyptic war, there's plenty of scrap to go around.

The addition of vocal talent doesn't always completely gel with the action. (The original short was dialogue-free.) And while the cast, including Elijah Wood, Jennifer Connolly and John C. Reilly, is quite game, something about the end result seems lacking.

Maybe it's the fixed expression of wonder on the dolls' faces, due mostly to their permanently wide metal eyes. No matter what they're saying, they always look kind of like simpletons.

But none of this ruins the film, which packs a lot of action and exploration into a very swift running time. And while the main goals of the patchwork heroes might get muddled, their spirit shines through. For something set in the charred wasteland of the fall of man, it's remarkably uplifting.

On the web

- For 9 photos, trailer and screentimes — or to buy tickets — visit metronews.ca/movies.

Screentimes

- **DOWNTOWN**
Cumberland Cinemas Wed 1:15-4-7-9:20 Thu 7-9:20; Scotiabank Theatre Wed-Thu 12:30-3-5:10-7:45-10; Yonge-Eglinton Centre Wed 1:15-4:30-6:45-9 Thu 1:50-4:30-6:45-9
- **WEST END:**
Queensway Wed-Thu 12:20-2:40-5-7:35-9:55
- **EAST END:**
Beach Cinemas Wed-Thu 7:30-10
- **NORTH YORK:**
SilverCity Yorkdale 6 Wed-Thu 12:40-3-5:15-7:40-10:05
- **SCARBOROUGH:**
Eglinton Town Centre Wed-Thu 4:10-7-9:50; 401 & Morningside Wed-Thu 3:30-6:20-9; Kennedy Commons 20 Wed-Thu 2:10-4:10-6:10-8:10-10:10
- **PEEL REGION:**
Coliseum 10 Wed-Thu 12:40-3-5:15-7:45-10; Courtney Park 16 Wed-Thu 3:15-5:30-7:45-9:50; SilverCity Brampton Wed-Thu 4:30-7:05-9:20; SilverCity Mississauga Wed-Thu 5-7:10-9:30
- **NORTH:**
Aurora Cinemas Wed-Thu 7:10-9:40; Colossus 19 Wed-Thu 4:30-7-9:30; Elgin Mills 10 Wed-Thu 6:40-9:10; First Markham Place Wed-Thu 6:30-9; SilverCity Newmarket Wed-Thu 3:55-6:45-9:30; SilverCity Richmond Hill Wed-Thu 3:45-7-9:55
- **HALTON:**
SilverCity Burlington 8 Wed-Thu 7:15-9:30; SilverCity Oakville Wed-Thu 7:20-10:05
- **DURHAM:**
Whitby 24 Wed-Thu 11:20-1:15-3:15-5:15-7:20-9:30
- *Times are subject to change. Complete listings are also available at metronews.ca/movies.*

†NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Contest ends Nov. 8, 2009. For rules, details & entry, visit www.oneforme.ca or www.oneforyou.ca. Must be Canadian resident age of majority. 1 Grand Prize of $100K + a matching cash donation to a charity of your choice‡. 203 Instant Win Prizes with ARV's from $35 to $1,000 + a matching cash donation to a charity in the contest rules. Odds of winning any prize depend on no. of eligible entries. Odds of winning an Instant Win Prize also depends on time & date of entry. Skill-testing question required. ‡Charity of choice is a list of registered charities pre-selected by contest sponsor in the following categories: Local/Community, Global, Environment & Health. See full contest rules for further details. *Trademark of or used under license by Cadbury Adams Canada Inc.

For complete contest details go to http://www.sonymusic.ca/pitbull/hmv/rules

Walk of Fame presenters announced
Gordon Lightfoot, Nelly Furtado and Rachel Lefevre are among the celebrity presenters lined up for this weekend's Walk of Fame gala. Children's author Robert Munsch, band Blue Rodeo and the late actor Raymond Burr are among the recipients. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fans fete Oprah's 24th season

CELEBRATION Thousands of Oprah Winfrey fans gathered on Chicago's Michigan Avenue as the talk show host planned to celebrate the 24th season of her show with a public taping yesterday that was to include the Black Eyed Peas and Rascal Flatts.

Diane Stimson lined up at 4:30 a.m., several hours before the taping was set to begin, and by the afternoon the 43-year-old Chicagoan was dancing behind a metal barrier as she waited. She called Winfrey an inspiration.

"She worked her way to the top, and she made it," Stimson said. "She gives us all hope."

Thousands are expected to attend the special outdoor event in Chicago, which will also feature Jennifer Hudson, James Taylor and magician Criss Angel.

The taping is free and open to the public.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Men and Goats wage comedic psychic war

George Clooney wants viewers to know one thing about his new movie, a comic tale of "psychic warfare" by the U.S. military: It's not a war movie.

The Men Who Stare at Goats, directed by Grant Heslov, was shown out of competition Tuesday at the Venice Film Festival.

Based on Jon Ronson's book of the same name and inspired by true events, the movie also includes Ewan McGregor, Jeff Bridges and Kevin Spacey.

It's a madcap comedy about reporter Bob Wilton, played by McGregor, who is looking for a big scoop in a war zone when he meets Lyn Cassady, played by Clooney — a member of a unit that wants to change the way wars are fought by employing paranormal powers.

"I think we looked at this and thought it wasn't an Iraq war film," Clooney said at a press conference Tuesday.

True to his style, he joked when asked if he researched paranormal powers for the movie: "At the premiere I am going to actually walk through a wall," and added, "What is so fun about it is there is a tremendous amount of it that is true."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A fan's devotion

• A fan of George Clooney stripped to his boxers at the Venice Film Fest yesterday and declared to the star: "I am gay ... Take me, choose me George, please. May I kiss you, just once?" Clooney responded with a smile: "It's hard when you take a big chance and it doesn't really work."

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If you think you might be depressed, are aged 18-65 and live in the greater Toronto area, you might be able to participate.
Call 416.260.4199 for a confidential interview
For more information about other programs and services at CAMH please visit www.camh.net or call 416.535.8501
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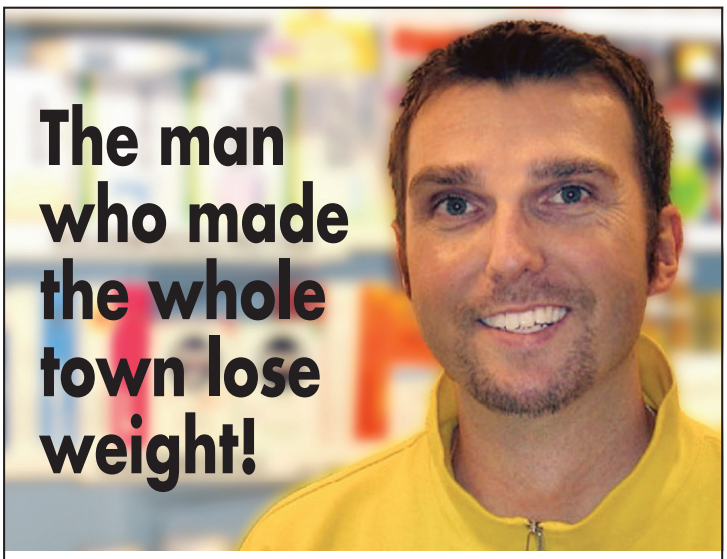
❍ Poor concentration
If you have some of these symptoms and are between 19 – 65 years of age, you may be eligible to participate in a research study which combines telephone counselling and an antidepressant medication.
The study is being conducted by Dr. Sagar Parikh at the Mood Disorders Clinic, Toronto Western Hospital.
For more information, call 416.603.5800 ext. 2870
University Health Network



The man who made the whole town lose weight!

In the small town of Ålesund in Norway, people have been introduced to a secret about weight loss that made over 1500 of them lose weight. The man behind the secret is a health food storeowner, who discovered a new and innovative way of using mulberries.

A CUSTOMER ASKED FOR ADVICE

It all began a summer day in 2006 when a customer of Johnny Pettersen asked him for advice about how to eliminate sugar cravings; "I gave my customer a box of New Nordic's Mulberry leaf tablets, because mulberry is well known to lower your blood sugar after meals. When blood sugar is stable, sugar cravings disappear. It worked very well!"

THE MULBERRY DIET!

"I recommended mulberry to many of my customers and soon noticed that they were losing weight. This made me curious, so I studied the effect of mulberries on blood sugar, insulin and fat burning. Surely enough, because of the effect on blood sugar, mulberry leafs also lead to a lower insulin secretion, which makes you able to burn stored fat better and also reduces fat storage from excess calories.

I increased the dosage and now started recommending two mulberry tablets before each meal. It worked better than I expected! My customers not only controlled their sugar cravings, but also lost significant amounts of weight." says Johnny, and continues: "I recommend customers to follow the program for a minimum of 10 days, in order to also eliminate their need for sugar stimulation. Sugar works as a drug on the brain and people need to eliminate the need for a sugar high, if they want to stay slim. With mulberry my customers changed to a healthier diet without even noticing it – they simply didn't crave sugar."

1500 CUSTOMERS LOST WEIGHT

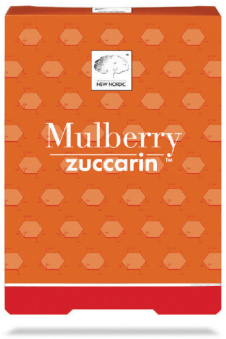
After the success of the first customers, word traveled fast; "In the last 12 months I have worked with over 1500 customers in Ålesund and the surrounding area. Mulberry has been a tremendous success. Once my customers try the tablets they come back, often with friends and family, and buy 4-6 packages at a time – not just one. It is a great business, but even more rewarding because I see my customers coming back happy, healthy and slim", Johnny explains.

AN OLD JAPANESE TRADITION

For centuries, the Japanese have enjoyed the health benefits from mulberry leaf teas, and today we know from clinical studies how mulberry leaves regulate blood sugar levels. For dieters, this means a lower production of insulin after eating carbohydrates. Insulin is responsible for storing excess calories as fat and for shutting down fat burning. Too much insulin is a dieter's worst enemy!

NOW IN CANADA

Scandinavian manufacturer New Nordic has recently launched a mulberry product in Canada, called Mulberry Zuccarin™. The tablets have been developed in Japan in collaboration with mulberry farmers, botanical experts and a reputable Japanese university hospital outside of Tokyo. Each tablet contains 400 mg of pure mulberry leaf extract.



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DAVE HOGAN/GETTY IMAGES

Fans of Michael Jackson are hoping to relive his glory days, such as at this London concert in 1990, with a glitzy tribute to the singer at a 17th-century palace in Vienna.

Star-studded MJ tribute

Mary J. Blige, Chris Brown and Natalie Cole will be among the top artists performing at a Sept. 26 Michael Jackson tribute concert in Vienna, organizers said Tuesday.

But they left open the possibility that major stars such as Madonna might still be part of the show, which will take place outside a 17th-century palace in the Austrian capital.

"Just hold your horses!" Jackson's brother Jermaine told reporters at a packed news conference in Vienna's city hall.

Event promoter Georg Kindel said that up to 25 performers are expected to participate in concert, which is being billed as the main global tribute for the King of Pop, who died June 25 in Los Angeles. More names will be unveiled later this week in London and Berlin, Kindel said.

Sister Sledge, Akon, Angela Bassett, and the Germany-based boy band US5 also are among the 13 artists confirmed so far, Jermaine Jackson said. In addition, Jackson's original band and dancers will take part.

"We're very excited — the list is growing more and more," Jermaine Jackson said, adding that "many major Bollywood names" and artists from the Middle East also would be involved.

All the artists will play some of Jackson's greatest hits at the concert, including Thriller, Billie Jean, Black or White and Bad.

"We will honour on this night not only the musician and artist Michael Jackson but also the humanitarian," Kindel said. "He's really someone who changed the history of music."

Jackson's family and children — as well as 65,000 fans — are expected to attend the tribute to be held on a large stage with a crown on its roof and two runways in front of Vienna's former imperial Schoenbrunn Palace, one of the Austrian capital's top tourist attractions, Kindel said. A "significant portion" of the proceeds from the event will be donated to charity, he added.

Over the course of the evening, Jermaine will perform live, with video of his late brother projected onto nearby walls, organizers said. All artists will sing either Heal the World or We are the World as a grand finale.

When asked why stars such as Madonna and Whitney Houston — mentioned in Austrian media reports — were not on the list made public Tuesday, a defensive Kindel stressed the list of performers was still not set in stone.

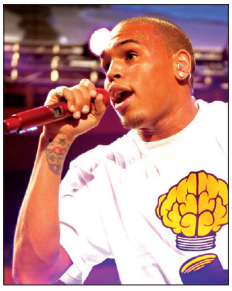
"This is not the final lineup — maybe some of the names you mentioned you will hear within the next couple of days," he said.

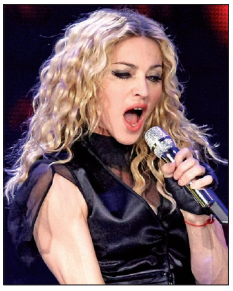
A sly Jermaine Jackson, meanwhile, acknowledged in response to another question that organizers were "in contact" with artists such as Madonna, Stevie Wonder and Diana Ross.

Jermaine Jackson has said Vienna was chosen as the venue because his brother "loved castles," and because Jermaine was impressed with how a smaller tribute held in July outside a mothballed nuclear power plant was organized.

"The beauty of the city is what just really knocks us out because it's just a wonderful setting," to keep Michael's legacy alive, Jackson said.

Tickets went on sale last month. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





GETTY IMAGES

Chris Brown and Madonna are among the artists rumoured or confirmed to be performing at a Michael Jackson tribute concert in Vienna on Sept. 26.

"We will honour on this night not only the musician and artist Michael Jackson but also the humanitarian."
Georg Kindel, event promoter

Show details

- For tickets and more information on the show, visit tribute2009.com

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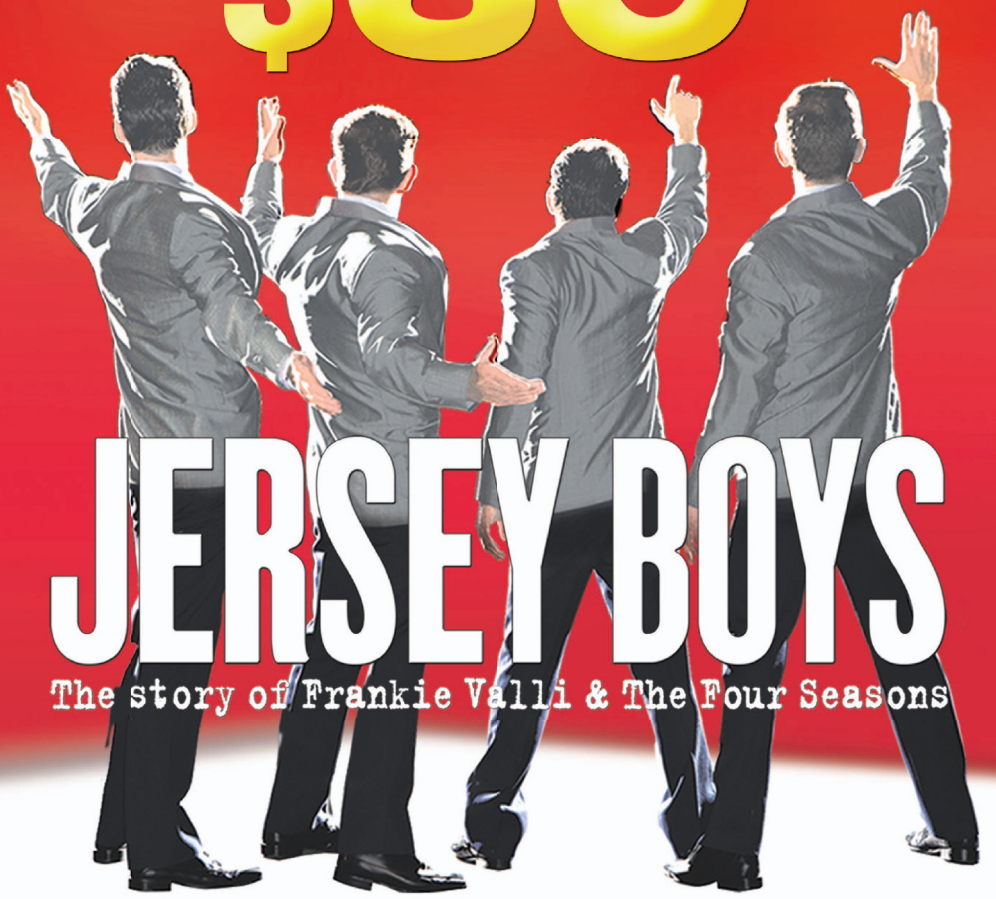

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Photo: Chris Callis

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dancap

Dying her dog

Former Danity Kane singer Aubrey O'Day, 25, is defending herself against criticism on some websites for constantly dying her one-year-old teacup Maltese, Ginger, different colours. "She likes to have looks," O'Day says. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Reviving The Beatles

Fab Four's catalogue digitally remastered for first time

GRAHAM ROCKINGHAM
for Metro Canada

Pop music comes and goes. What's hot now will surely not be in a couple of years. Unless, of course, it's by The Beatles.

Forty years after the Fab Four folded, their popularity continues to cross all age groups. Recent polls show they appeal to a greater cross section of generations than any other artist — more than Sinatra, Elvis, or even Michael Jackson.

So mark today as something of an historic occasion — the day EMI releases the Beatles Remasters, a box set containing the band's complete original works, digitally remastered for the first time. These albums are what the folks at EMI call "the core catalogue." They've made the date easy for us to remember — 9-9-09 as in "... Number Nine, Number Nine, Number Nine."

Besides offering a bigger, brighter sound, the digital remastering represents the first step in making Beatles music available for download to your iPod. Negotiations continue on that big-money deal, but it's only a matter of time. First they've got plastic to peddle.

Sales will be brisk. Pre-orders for the coveted mono version have already sold out on Amazon.com. Suggested list price for the stereo version is $293.79, but major retailers will offer it at closer to $190. If that's too steep, you can still purchase the CDs individually. (To draw in the kids, a Beatles edition of the Rock Band is also being released, at a price of about $250.)

The box set contains all of the Beatles LPs as originally released in England, plus the American version of Magical Mystery Tour with its five added singles.

There's a double disc called Past Masters, a compilation originally issued in 1987 containing 33 singles never placed on albums. The set also includes a documentary DVD, as well as mini-docs embedded in each CD.

For true aficionados, there's an alternative box available with the first ten discs remastered in original mono, the way they were first mixed by producer George Martin. That's priced $30 to $60 more.

So does "remastered" sound better? Well, yes and no. It's cleaner, fuller, more immediate. Highs are higher and lows lower. Some clicks and pops were removed, but always with the integrity of the original in mind.

The vocal separation is extraordinary. Check out the "oohoohs" in Fixing a Whole. The guitars of John and George come through so big and bright they glisten, while Paul's adventurous bass lines are revealed like never before on tracks such as And Your Bird Can Sing.

Ringo's innovative cadence on tracks like Ticket To Ride comes through loud and clear.

Sometimes, however, the clarity works to distraction. The opening chord of Hard Day's Night has never rung truer, but the incessant cowbell on I Should Have Known Better, and the bongos on Ticket to Ride were better lost in the mix.

And there's those little things that you may not have noticed before, like John's yawn on I'm Only Sleeping and his "bye-ee" at the start of the Sgt. Pepper's reprise.

The true value to this remarkable box set, however, is the fact that it's all there ... in one place ... to be savoured. Thirteen wondrous albums over just seven years, each one a creative breakthrough.

Take a long weekend, listen to them in order and marvel at how they did it.

EMI MUSIC PHOTO

Forty years after the Fab Four folded, their popularity continues to cross all age groups. Recent polls suggest they appeal to a greater cross section of generations than any other artist

Even more Beatles

- Each CD, except Past Masters, contains an individual QuickTime mini-documentary embedded within it, playable on computers.
- Each CD also contains a booklet with photos and original liner notes, as well as updated historical and production notes.

The suggested list price is $293.79 for the stereo box set and $349.79 for the mono set. Most large retailers will be charging less.

Leibovitz races clock to repay loan

Celebrity photographer Annie Leibovitz risked losing the copyright to her images — and her entire life's work — if she did not pay back a $24 million US loan due to lender Art Capital Group by 11:59 p.m. last night. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mix of Six

Metro taps into today's best entertainment and event picks

VICTOR TAVARES

FESTIVAL The five-day 2009 Junction Arts Festival starts today with a selection of literary, arts, music and dance events (including a performance from musician Jason Collett, above). Dundas Street West, from Keele Street to Quebec Avenue. Visit junctionartsfest.com

COMEDY Jasen Frederickson begins his five-day stint at Yuk Yuk's on Richmond Street West. Visit yukyuks.com for more details.

FILM The Climate Experience short film series is being screened at the Bloor Cinema, 506 Bloor St. W., at 6:45 p.m. A panel discussion will follow. Visit climatechangeiscomingtotown.net for more details.

THEATRE Side by Side Sondheim, a musical revue featuring highlights from Stephen Sondheim's career, opens tonight. Fairview Library Theatre, 33 Fairview Mall. Visit lightoperacompany.com for ticket information.

MUSIC Ingrid Michaelson plays Toronto in support of her new album Everybody, which was released last week. The Mod Club, 722 College St., 7 p.m, $18.50.

TALK Canadian film critic and school Tom McSorley speaks at the Gladstone, 1214 Queen St. W., in time for the start of the Toronto International Film Festival. 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Free.

• Have an event you would like to see listed? Send an email to listings@metronews.ca or tweet it to @metrotoronto

Kenya's Style

Kenya Hunt

Read the blog at metronews.ca/kenyasstyle

Vets on Booker shortlist

Henry VIII, Nazism among tales up for lit prize

Previous winners A.S. Byatt and J.M. Coetzee are among six finalists announced yesterday for literature's prestigious Man Booker Prize.

Byatt's Edwardian family saga The Children's Book and Coetzee's semi-autobiographical Summertime are leading contenders for the 50,000-pound ($89,000) fiction award, which will be handed out Oct. 6.

A victory for South African Nobel literature laureate Coetzee would make him the first writer to win the Booker three times. He took the prize in 1983 with Life&Times of Michael K and in 1999 with Disgrace.

Byatt won the Booker in 1990 for Possession.

They face strong competition for a prize that always attracts the attention of literary-minded gamblers. Bookies have reported a surge of bets on Hilary Mantel's Wolf Hall, a historical novel set during the reign of Henry VIII. Bookmaker William Hill made Mantel 4/5 favourite for the prize.

"There is thundering narrative, great inventiveness, poetry and sharp human insight in abundance"

James Naughtie, Man Booker Prize judge

The other contenders are Adam Foulds' The Quickening Maze, inspired by 19th-century poet John Clare; Simon Mawer's The Glass Room, the story of a Jewish family set against the backdrop of the rise of Nazism; and Sarah Waters' The Little Stranger, a spooky tale that unfolds in 1940s England.

The Booker is open to writers from Britain, Ireland or the Commonwealth of former colonies.

Journalist James Naughtie, who is chairing the judging panel, said they were all "writers on the top of their form."

"There is thundering narrative, great inventiveness, poetry and sharp human insight in abundance," he said.

The Booker almost always brings a surge in sales for the winner — and for bookstores.

Jonathan Ruppin of Foyles' bookstore chain said "Winners with a few books under their belt already tend to be better for sales: this gets people buying more books by that author and, we hope, encourages them to start exploring beyond the best-sellers at the front of the shop."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tolkien heirs and film studio settle lawsuit

LEGAL The heirs of J.R.R. Tolkien and a movie studio that produced the blockbuster Lord of the Rings trilogy have settled a lawsuit over the film's profits.

The agreement was announced in a joint press release yesterday.

Tolkien's heirs sued New Line Cinema in February 2008, claiming the studio owed it millions in profits from the movies, which were released between 2001 and 2003.

The lawsuit sought to block the release of two upcoming prequels based on Tolkien's novel, The Hobbit.

No settlement paperwork has yet been filed with a Los Angeles court, and the agreement's terms are confidential.

One of the main beneficiaries of the settlement is The Tolkien Trust, a British charity that supports causes around the world.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Work ahead

• Peter Jackson, director of the Lord of the Rings trilogy, will executive produce The Hobbit films. Guillermo del Toro will direct the prequels.

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TO	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 9/9/09	265	353	2 TVO	Galapagos (Part 2 of 3)		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		The Street		Human Edge		Agenda-Paikin
	211	331	3 GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Wipeout (HDTV) (N)		Glee "Showmance" (N)		Melrose Place "Pilot" (N)		News Final
	215	343	4 OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)		Vivere Il	Omni News:	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	210	302	6 CBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	Dragon's Den (HDTV)		The Tudors (DVS)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	214	344	7 CITY	Law & Order: SVU		According-Jim	According-Jim	According-Jim	According-Jim	Murdoch Mysteries (HDTV)		News
	212	313	8 CTV	etalk	Dance	America's Next Top Model (Season Premiere) (N)				CSI: NY (HDTV)		CTV News
	218	345	11 E!	*Radio Days* ★★★ (1987, Comedy) Mia Farrow, Seth Green.				*1969* ★★ (1988, Drama) Robert Downey Jr., Kiefer Sutherland.				News at 11 (N)
	137	763	13 TFO	Panorama été	Météo	Visages	Villages	*L'Épreuve* (2006, Drame) Jimena Lindo, Gianfranco Brero.				Météo
	-	-	14 -	Raymond	According-Jim	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		Two/Half Men	King	Passport Can.
	213	326	15 SUN	The Insider (N)	George Lopez	*Brewster's Millions* ★★ (1985, Comedy) Richard Pryor.				The Insider	Hitchcock Pres	Becker
	-	387	16 CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Old Christine	Gary Unmarr	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		CSI: NY (HDTV)		News 4 at 11
	-	385	17 NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	America's Got Talent (N)		America's Got Talent		Law & Order: SVU		News
	-	386	18 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	Wipeout (HDTV) (N)		(9:02) Crash Course		(10:01) Primetime: Crime (N)		News
	219	346	20 ACH-B	Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N)	So You Think You Can Dance		America's Got Talent		Law & Order: SVU		A News
	-	-	28 FOX	Judge Judy	Two/Half Men	So You Think You Can Dance		Glee "Showmance" (N)		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61 PBS	News-Lehrer	Wait for God	Families Stand Together		Your Life, Your Money		Your Life, Your Money		Business Rpt.
	297	652	330 WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	America's Next Top Model (Season Premiere) (N)				PIX News at Ten Tong.		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331 SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	Dr. Phil (HDTV)		WBZ News (N)	What's-Store	Frasier	Frasier	Punk'd
	298	653	332 TLA	The Tyra Banks Show		My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Friends	KTLA News	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Next Model
news	502	390	26 NW	CBC News	Fortune	CBC News: Tonight (N)		CBC News: The National		Crash: The Next Depression		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79 CNB	Kudlow Report		CNBC Reports		American Greed		American Greed		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22 net	MLB Baseball Minnesota Twins at Toronto Blue Jays. From Rogers Centre in Toronto.						Sportsnet Connected		Sportsnet Con.
	400	400	30 TSN	Tennis U.S. Open – Men's and Women's Quarterfinals. From the USTA National Tennis Center in Flushing, N.Y.								SportsCentre
	411	457	58 OLN	Ghost Hunters		Dog the Bounty Hunter		Survivorman Costa Rica.		Ghost Hunters		Bounty Hunter
	417	406	81 SC	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Amer. Thunder	Pinks Outtakes	Pass Time (N)	Pass Time (N)	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pimp My Ride
family	551	542	25 YTV	Drake & Josh	That's-Weird	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz	Prank Patrol	Adrenaline Proj
	554	544	45 TEL	Scooby-Doo	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad	Futurama	Robot Chicken
	556	540	51 FAM	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
cable variety	602	567	27 W	Old Christine	Friends	Friends	Grocery Bag	Grocery Bag	Yourself Sexy	10 Years Younger-Challenge		Supersize-Skin
	570	580	29 MM	One Tree Hill		Video on Trial	Love Court	America's Best Dance Crew		Degrassi: TNG	Degrassi: TNG	One Tree Hill
	615	520	31 A&E	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Dog the Bounty Hunter		Dog the Bounty Hunter		Criss Angel Mindfreak		Criss Angel
	700	800	35 TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Il Padrino Parte II (Parte 1 de 2)				George Lopez	George Lopez	George Lopez
	571	581	36 MMM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	The Daily Fix
	575	583	38 CMT	Doc Walker: Live at Revival		Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Doc Walker
	616	521	39 SHO	The Outer Limits		The Guard "Live Free"		Paradise Falls	Paradise Falls	Bones		NCIS
	620	523	40 BVO	The Achievers	Bravo!Videos	Arts & Minds	O'Reagan File	Wingfield	Wingfield	Territories		Law & Order
	601	562	41 SLC	Rich Poor	Rich Poor	Carlawood	Nearly Dead	Nearly Dead	Newlywed	In Laws	In Laws	ET Canada
	522	506	43 HIS	Expedition Africa		Life After People (N)		Ice Road Truckers		Expedition Africa		Outlaw Bikers
	625	548	44 COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Canadian Comedy Festival		Daily Show
	600	564	46 H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Big City Broker	The Stagers	Property Virgin	Hid Potential	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes-Homes
	294	529	47 TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	*Stealth* ★★ (2005, Action) Josh Lucas, Jessica Biel, Jamie Foxx.					Seinfeld	*Stealth*
	576	582	49 BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live		*Beauty Shop* ★★ (2005, Comedy) Queen Latifah.				The Game	The Game	W. Williams
	627	528	50 SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		Supernatural		Supernatural		Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52 MTV	Cribs	After	MTV News	Parent Control	The Real World		The Real World (N)		MTV Live
	618	524	54 TROP	King	King	The Outer Limits		ET Canada	What Happen?	Family Guy	King	King
	603	561	56 FOOD	Ricardo	Fresh-Anna	Challenge		Iron Chef America		Chopped		Chef School
	261	394	60 V	Murder, She Wrote		Keeping Up	Foot in Grave	Doc Martin		Clergy	Driven-Vision	Poltergeist
	621	527	63 STR	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		TMZ (N)	etalk	Canada's Next Top Model		Tonight Show-Conan O'Brien		TMZ
	553	546	65 TRE	Backyardigans	Nght Grdn	Max & Ruby	Franklin	Little Bear	Bucket-Dinos	Babar	Big & Small	Max & Ruby
	115	711	101 TVA	Poule-oeufs or	Bloopers TVA	Destinées (HDTV) (SC)		L'Effet Kurtz (N)		TVA 22 heures	Sucré-salé	*Couloir-mort*
	126	730	102 RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI économie	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249 VIVA	Judging Amy		Missing "Resurrection"		The Closer "Slippin'"		Da Vinci's Inquest		Mediums
	300	601	301 M1	*Bed Stori*	(7:20) *It's a Boy Girl Thing* (2006)			*American Gangster* ★★★ (2007, Crime Drama) Denzel Washington.				
	305	612	306 PIX	*Fisher King*	(7:20) *Crosswinds* ★★ (1994, Action)			*The Replacement Killers* (1998, Action)			*Hank Williams First Nation*	

critics' corner

South Park

The premise is clever — a "Night of the Living Dead" parody with homeless people instead of zombies — but the execution of this episode leaves a lot to be desired. A half-hour episode needs more than one joke to carry it, and you'll quickly tire of the homeless hordes calling out for "Chaaaange! Chaange!" When you're watching "South Park" and repeatedly consulting the clock to see if it's close to being over, something's wrong. 9:30 PM on COM

Glee

As classes resume at McKinley High School, the glee club tosses out Will's (Matthew Morrison) choice of a disco song in favor of a blatantly sexual number when it performs for the first time in front of the student body. Will's nemesis, Sue Sylvester (Jane Lynch), sends the "Cheerios" to infiltrate the group. Jessalyn Gilsig, Lea Michele and Chris Colfer co-star in the new episode "Showmance." 9 PM on GTV

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Fashion world repercussions
Victoria Beckham is reportedly devastated after learning she won't be gracing the cover of U.S. Vogue — because she has already posed for the magazine's main competitor, Elle, femalefirst.co.uk reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

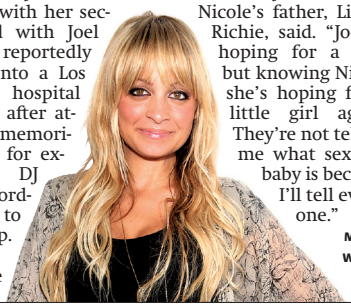
Nicole ready to pop?

ANY MINUTE NOW Nicole Richie is ready to pop. The former reality star, who is pregnant with her second child with Joel Madden, reportedly checked into a Los Angeles hospital last week after attending a memorial service for ex-boyfriend DJ AM, according to Hollyscoop.

Richie's due date is reportedly some time in early September.

"It's very exciting," Nicole's father, Lionel Richie, said. "Joel is hoping for a boy, but knowing Nicole she's hoping for a little girl again. They're not telling me what sex the baby is because I'll tell everyone."

METRO WORLD NEWS



That's amore: George's Italian fling

NEW GIRLFRIEND His hand still bandaged from a motoring accident last month, George Clooney was spotted arriving in Venice Monday sporting something that's all the rage in Italy — TV presenter Elisabetta Canalis, people.com reports.

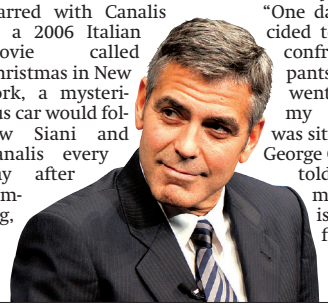
The day before the premiere of his movie, Men Who Stare at Goats, the couple made a grand arrival at the Venice Film Festival following a water taxi ride across the city's lagoon, prompting Italian papers to gush over the pair as the next Brad and Angelina.

Clooney, 48, and the woman better known to local media as "La Canalis" or simply "Eli" have been inseparable the past three weeks, spending much of their time at his lakeside village in Como.

Clooney was introduced to his new amore in Rome, but apparently carried a torch for Canalis even while still dating his then-girlfriend Sarah Larson. According to actor Alessandro Siani, who co-starred with Canalis in a 2006 Italian movie called Christmas in New York, a mysterious car would follow Siani and Canalis every day after filming, when Siani accompanied her back to the hotel where they were staying.

"One day I finally decided to go over and confront the occupants of the car. I went over and to my surprise, who was sitting in the car? George Clooney!" Siani told an Italian magazine. "This isn't a new fling."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Eric and Rebecca expecting baby?

RUMOUR MILL Grey's Anatomy star Eric Dane and his wife, Rebecca Gayheart, are expecting their first child, according to Page Six sources. Dane was seen repeatedly putting a protective hand on Gayheart's stomach during a memorial for DJ AM recently.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Celebrity tweets

Katy Perry gets her priorities straight while house hunting.

• @katyperry Main request in finding a home, must have a slip and slide hill. No if's ands or what's about it. Will trade crown molding for.

METRO WORLD NEWS

GETTY IMAGES

Dancing couple split

SHORTLIVED ROMANCE Karina Smirnoff and Maksim Chmerkovskiy have called off their engagement, her rep confirms to us-magazine.com.

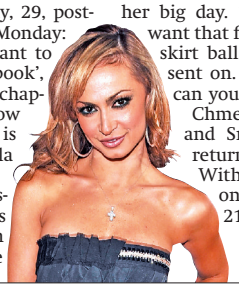
Chmerkovskiy, 29, posted on Twitter Monday: "What was meant to be a 'life long book', turned into a 'chapter'.....and now that 'chapter' is finished..... Se la vie..."

The professional dancers got engaged on New Year's Eve 2008 — six months after Smirnoff, 31, split from Mario Lopez. They planned to wed next summer.

In June, Smirnoff said she was looking forward to her big day. "I definitely want that fairy tale, big skirt ball gown," she sent on. "When else can you wear that?"

Chmerkovskiy and Smirnoff will return to Dancing With the Stars on ABC Sept. 21.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Can Mischa feel the pump?

NOT A GYM-RAT Mischa Barton is having a hard time motivating herself to exercise, apparently.

The actress was spotted outside a New York City gym recently looking anything but ready for a workout, according to Gatecrasher.

"She had a bag of McDonald's in hand and was complaining to someone who looked like a trainer," said a source, who claims the actress was overheard pouting, "Do I have to?"

METRO WORLD NEWS

Jennifer knows best

RELATIONSHIP GURU Jennifer Aniston has had plenty of experience with relationships, so she feels more than qualified to dish out some advice.

"Women complain that men don't do enough, but it's your own fault," she said in the Australian edition of Harper's Bazaar.

"You train your man to do nothing. You can't blame someone for not knowing what his or her job should be if you don't ask for it right off the bat."

She also theorizes that women give too much in relationships because "it's just instinctual as a woman to be the caretaker of your home."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Elijah donates his DNA

UNUSUAL CHARITY When a celebrity provides a DNA sample, it usually means he's in trouble. But when it comes to Elijah Wood, giving up his genetic material is all for a good cause, people.com reports.

The actor is donating his DNA to DNA 11, a personalized-art company, to create artwork based on Wood's genetic profile. The piece has been donated to an eBay auction, with the proceeds going to The Art of Elysium, a charity for children with serious medical conditions.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Hilary finds love in unusual place

THE UNEXPECTED After her nine-year marriage to Chad Lowe ended in 2006, Hilary Swank needed someone to lean on for support, and that person just happened to be her agent, popeater.com reports.

Although initially there was "no spark" between the 35-year-old Oscar winner and John Campisi, in time it became clear there was something there.

"What's interesting is, there was never anything, it wasn't until we were well into the dissipation of our respective relationships — going through something so difficult at the same time, we became very good friends," she told Hello! magazine, adding they no longer work together professionally.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES

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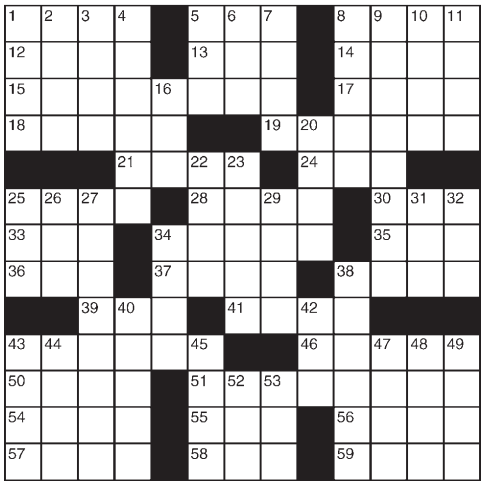

ACROSS

1 Crease
5 Prosciutto, e.g.
8 Get bigger
12 Petri dish stuff
13 G-8 member
14 Hayseed
15 Ignorant
17 On
18 Rushmore face
19 Potpourri pouch
21 Paraphernalia
24 12-Across, e.g.
25 Wee bit
28 Inlet
30 Computer key
33 Luau bowlful
34 Done
35 Knight's address
36 Drone
37 Antelope's playmate
38 Catch sight of
39 Early bird?
41 Do what I say
43 Billfold
46 Gun the engine
50 Neighbourhood
51 Bald
54 Platter
55 Einstein's birthplace
56 Enrages
57 Facility
58 Petrol
59 Pub missile

DOWN

1 Datum
2 Leer at
3 Praise to the skies
4 Flour-coat
5 This and 32-Down are a big fuss
6 Donkey
7 Church service
8 Dinnertime prayer
9 Cruel
10 Reed instrument
11 Sobbed
16 Caustic solution
20 On in years
22 Teen's woe
23 Wild West show
25 Speedometer stat
26 Debtor's letters
27 Eternal
29 Trick or treat?
31 Try the tea
32 5-Down's partner
34 Advantage
38 Pupil's cover
40 Candied
42 Mess up
43 Test the waters
44 Met melody
45 Hoodlum
47 Miles of movies
48 Addict
49 "Hey, you!"
52 Carte lead-in
53 They're faster than e-mails

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

			6		4	1	9	
5	1				3		2	
9		6	2			4		
7	9		5		8	2		6
4		8	1		9		7	3
		3			7	8		2
	7		8				6	4
	5	2	3		6			

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

R	O	U	E		A	G	A		D	O	S	E		
E	A	S	T		N	U	B		A	V	E	R		
B	R	A	C	K	E	T	S		M	E	G	A		
			H	E	W		T	I	A	R	A	S		
H	A	V	E	N		B	A	N	S					
E	L	I	S		B	R	I	C	K	B	A	T		
R	A	N		A	R	E	N	A		O	R	E		
B	R	E	A	K	E	R	S		R	A	G	S		
			B	I	A	S		T	A	R	O	T		
D	E	M	A	N	D		C	O	N					
E	P	I	C		B	R	O	O	K	L	Y	N		
P	E	R	U		O	U	R		L	I	E	U		
T	E	E	S		X	E	D		E	T	A	S		

8	2	6	9	4	1	3	7	5
7	3	5	6	2	8	4	1	9
4	9	1	7	5	3	6	2	8
5	4	2	3	8	7	9	6	1
1	8	7	5	9	6	2	3	4
3	6	9	2	1	4	5	8	7
2	7	4	1	3	9	8	5	6
6	5	8	4	7	2	1	9	3
9	1	3	8	6	5	7	4	2

On the web

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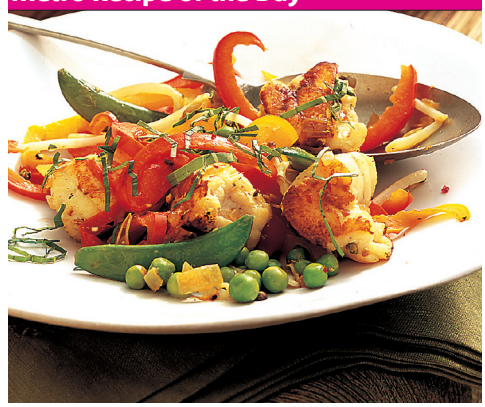
Metro Recipe of the Day



Peppered Fish with Lemon and Basil

INGREDIENTS:

2 tbsp (25 ml) vegetable oil
1 onion, finely chopped
2 red peppers, deseeded and thinly sliced
2 yellow peppers, deseeded and thinly sliced
6 oz (175 g) sugar snap peas
1 lb (500 g) firm white fish fillet, skinned and cut into 1 ½-in. (4 cm) chunks
1 lemon, zest grated and juiced
2 tsp (10 ml) mixed peppercorns, coarsely crushed
1/4 cups (300 ml) frozen peas, thawed
1/4 cups (300 ml) bean sprouts
Small bunch fresh basil, finely shredded

METHOD:

1. Heat wok or large frying pan over high heat and add 1 tbsp (15 ml) oil. Add onion and stir-fry 1 minute. Stir in peppers and sugar snap peas; continue stir-frying 3–5 minutes until vegetables are tender but still crisp. Transfer vegetables to plate using slotted spoon and keep in warm place.
2. Add remaining oil to wok and heat, then add fish and stir-fry over gentle heat 4 minutes (carefully turning chunks so as not to break them up) until fish is cooked through and flakes easily when tested with point of knife.
3. Add lemon zest, lemon juice and crushed peppercorns to wok. Return stir-fried vegetables to wok together with peas and bean sprouts. Heat through, stirring, 2–3 minutes. Scatter basil over top and serve at once.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Moderation is a must today because with Mars, your ruler, under pressure in the emotional sign of Cancer you will find it difficult to stop once you start.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Someone you meet while travelling or socializing will be a lot of fun and there is even a chance of romance if you are unattached.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Your taste for luxuries may well get the better of you today, but that's OK as you need something to cheer you up.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
There is a danger that you could be a bit too casual today and let others get away with things they don't really deserve.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
By all means help people in need today, but first make sure that they are deserving cases. Some individuals will try to make a buck or two.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
You don't have to back down in the face of provocation but look for ways you can be friends with people rather than enemies.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Someone you are not naturally close to will treat you like a long lost friend today. Should you be suspicious?

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
With Mars moving through one of the more positive areas of your chart this should be a highly productive time for you.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
You need to get over the idea that you can force other people to see things your way. It's not going to happen.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Cosmic activity in your opposite sign of Cancer will bring some kind of challenge, but you are well equipped to deal with it.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
Wishful thinking may be fun but it won't pay the bills or take you closer to your long-term goals.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
As far as some people are concerned you can do no wrong. As far as others are concerned you can do no right. You cannot be friends with everyone.

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LX MODEL SHOWN

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Crash Test Rating NHTSA - Frontal impacts†

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SX MODEL SHOWN

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HWY: 5.8 L/100KM 49 MPG CITY: 8.3 L/100KM 34 MPG

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